

THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Beatles'n'chips
The grill, griddle and
glamour of the
first motorway cafe

Willing spirits
A unique experiment
to assess the value
of faith healing

Punch lines
Peter Kellner on
a book of English
jokes for Irishmen

Injury time
Peaks and pitfalls
in the health of
mid-distance runners

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize (£4,000 because no one won on Saturday) was shared by four winners yesterday. Mr Peter Sayers of London, Mr Alfred Perkins of Plymouth, Mr Raymond Brown of Bristol and Mr Hilton Naveill of Heath-on-Thames each received £1,000. Portfolio list page 16, how to play, information service, back page.

Sterling up nearly three cents

Sterling gained 2.8 cents to close at \$1.3838, with the dollar weakened by speculation about a cut in US interest rates. Dealers suggested another half-point cut in British base rates might be possible without hitting the pound. Page 13

Gunman killed in Paris mosque

French police shot and killed an Algerian who held a hostage at gunpoint for nearly five hours in the Paris Grand Mosque. The gunman seriously wounded a mosque official but the hostage escaped unhurt.

More sniff glue

The incidence of glue-sniffing and other solvent abuse among school children may have doubled in the past year, a new survey states. Page 3

Britoil gain

Small investors achieved instant gains when dealings started in Britoil's new shares at 25p each, compared with the offer price of 100p. Page 13

Soccer rally

Birmingham Football Club manager, Mr Ron Saunders, has invited all Football League clubs to a meeting tomorrow as part of his campaign against hooliganism.

Shia release

Israel will today free another 100 of the mainly Shia Muslim Lebanese detainees whose release was demanded by the TWA hijackers in June. Security hopes, page 5

Virgin challenge

Virgin Atlantic Challenger, a 65-foot catamaran, left New York harbour yesterday in an attempt to set a transatlantic speed crossing record for Britain. Page 2

Costs fall

Industry's costs fell again last month and are now back to last summer's level. The fall was due to a strong pound and weak commodity prices. Page 13

Calman is on holiday until the end of the month.

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Why Whitehall needs a pay umpire: The Alliance divides in order to rule. Spectrum: war-time flings. Fashion: stylish Scots

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Moving nearer the global village: privatizing council computing, IBM's mythical micro: British Telecom and the disabled: Hitachi accused of predatory pricing. Oileon Boldon, Mr D. H. Turner, Dr J. D. Spillane. Classified, 17-21, 24-26

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Door failure theory in possible worst single-plane disaster

All 524 on board feared dead in Japanese air crash

By Our Foreign Staff

A Japan Air Lines Boeing 747 with 524 people on board crashed into a storm-swept mountain west of Tokyo yesterday after one of its doors was destroyed, airline officials said.

There was no immediate word on casualties or survivors of Flight 123, bound for Osaka, which disappeared from radar screens about 30 minutes after taking off from Tokyo. It was trying to make an emergency landing at a US base.

The aircraft was packed with people going home for a Buddhist festival. The disaster could be the worst involving a single aircraft.

A farmer who saw the crash, Mr Hajime Inoue, said: "I was looking up with wonderment when it started to nosedive. Then there was a big crashing sound like a thunderbolt and then a white flash." He saw a "grey mushroom cloud" rising behind mountains.

A JAL spokesman said a defence force helicopter had spotted wreckage from the jet about 75 miles northwest of Tokyo. The Kyodo News

agency said the wreckage was more than halfway up the 6,970 foot Mount Okura.

Debris, some burning, was scattered over a radius of three miles.

Captain Izumi Omori, who flew a helicopter over the site, said: "I saw flames burning in about 10 spots in a square, 1,000 feet each side." He could not find any signs of victims or survivors.

Rescue workers, hampered by rain, darkness and the terrain, were heading on foot to the site.

According to a passenger list, 12 of those on board were small children and about 20 passengers had non-Japanese names, with most of them sounding Korean. There were 509 passengers and 15 crew on the plane.

Mr Kyu Sakamoto, who in 1963 became the first Japanese pop singer to make the US hit parade with his song "Sukiyaki," was probably on the flight, his associates said.

A JAL spokesman and other officials said the ill-fated aircraft left Haneda airport at

6.12pm (0912 GMT). At 6.31 pilot Masami Takahama, aged 49, radioed Haneda as he was over Oshima island that the starboard rear door was damaged and that he had announced a state of emergency on the plane.

Eight minutes later the plane told the air-control station at Tokorozawa, near Tokyo: "The right rear door in the cabin has been destroyed. We will make an emergency descent."

When a controller asked if the plane was heading back to Haneda, a voice in the cockpit shouted "Yes, please."

Minutes later, a gasping voice said: "Please tell us where we are. We are unable to control."

According to JAL, Mr Takahama, who had logged 12,400 flying hours, more than 4,500 on the Boeing 747, said he was attempting an emergency landing at the US base at Yokota and swung the jet inland off the normal route to Osaka.

There was heavy cloud and storms in the rugged Nagano area as the aircraft limped in at low altitude. It vanished from the radar screens at 6.59 and a minute later a Japanese Air Force jet saw a huge burst of flame in the mountains.

Police said people in the area saw a low-flying plane and then a red flash. A column of smoke was seen rising.

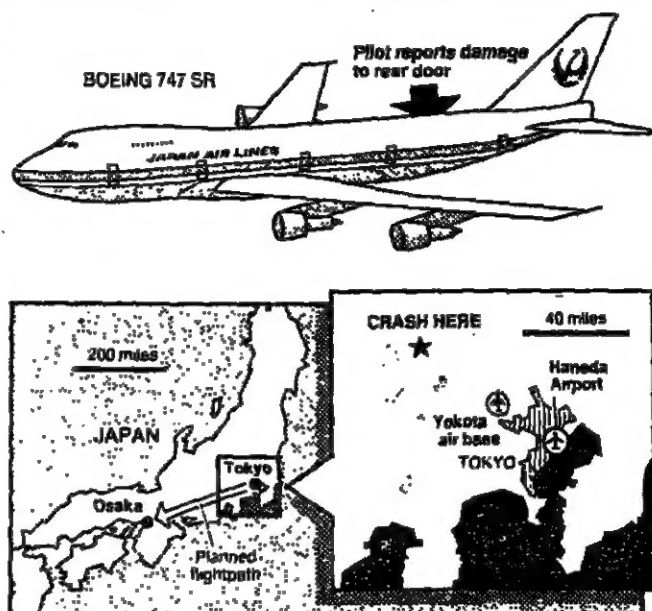
The area where the plane crashed is criss-crossed by deep valleys, packed tight with fir and spruce trees, and has few access roads. It is difficult to penetrate even on foot.

Leading the search were small parties of local police and

Continued on back page, col 1



Relatives of dead passengers weeping during an interview at Haneda airport yesterday.



Galtieri and his junta are charged

Buenos Aires (Reuter) -

Formal charges have been filed at Argentina's Supreme Military Tribunal against senior officers who led Argentina to defeat in the 1982 Falklands conflict with Britain, a court spokesman said yesterday.

In one of the final moves in the two-year-old court martial of 16 officers, the chief prosecutor in the trial filed the written accusations on Sunday. The court spokesman declined to say what the charges were.

The defendants include former President Galtieri and the two other members of the military junta which ordered the capture of the islands, known in Argentina as the Malvinas, on April 2, 1982.

The defence is allowed 45 days to reply before the court delivers its verdict.

A British task force recaptured the Falklands in June, 1982, after heavy fighting in which more than 1,000 Argentines died.

Galtieri and the Argentine Navy's former Commander, Jorge Anaya, could face the death sentence if charges contained in a separate military investigation of the defeat are confirmed.

The Defence Secretary, Sir Horacio Jaunarena, said the court martial should end in October or November.

Galtieri, Anaya and the former Air Force Commander, Basilio Lami Dozo, are also on trial with six other former military officers for a terror campaign against leftists between 1976 to 1983, when over 9,000 people disappeared.

The human rights trial yesterday began hearing what is expected to be the last week of public testimony.

Railmen increase industrial action

By David Felton
Labour Correspondent

Sporadic outbreaks of industrial action yesterday brought increased disruption of rail services as the simmering arguments over the introduction of driver-only trains threatened to spread to all parts of the railway network.

Passenger services on British Rail's western region were badly affected by a guard's walkout after an attempt to run a one-man train between the West Country and the Thames estuary. The management also failed in its plans to increase the number of trains in driver-only experiments on two freight services.

In the run-up to a ballot later this month on all-out industrial action by the 10,000 guards belonging to the National Union of Railwaymen, as many as 1,000 railway workers are now thought to be involved in the industrial action.

Both management and union believe that the long-awaited confrontation on the railways is imminent and that there will be further outbreaks of guerrilla industrial action around the country as British Rail presses ahead with its plans to introduce driver-only operations without union agreement.

Yesterday's disruption of services between London and the West Country and of commuter services into Paddington was because of a train carrying aggregate from a Somerset quarry to Purfleet in Kent. Although the train had no guard, it was double-manned with two drivers.

Signal box staff at Westbury, near Bristol, refused to handle the train and were sent home by the management. British Rail also tried to increase the experimental freight services between Birmingham and Sutton on Humberline, and Wilsden, north-west London, and Garston on Merseyside. Rail staff refused to cooperate with both services, involving more than 30 trains in all, and more than 60 guards at Birmingham went on strike.

The management said last night that it intended to continue trying to introduce one-man operation on freight services in preparation for its introduction on commuter services in the South-east and Strathclyde, in Scotland, in October.

Mr Jimmy Knapp, NUR general secretary, is touring the country this week to address meetings and win support for industrial action in the ballot which is due to be held on August 29.

The NUR leadership has yet to decide the wording of the ballot paper which will be sent to the guards. British Rail executives believe that the outcome of the ballot could be greatly influenced by that wording.

Amin army chief back in Uganda

(AFP) - A group of senior

army officers who served under Idi Amin before he was overthrown in 1979 have returned to Uganda to take part in proposed peace talks with the new leaders.

Amin's former Army Chief of Staff, Major-General Isaac Lumago, said here yesterday that the structure of units which went into exile after Amin's demise had remained intact in southern Sudan and eastern Zaïre.

General Lumago, who repeatedly referred to Amin as "the field marshal", argued that he had not been aware of any atrocities committed under the ousted dictator's regime.

In a broad reference which appeared to include Amin, who is living in exile in Saudi Arabia, General Lumago said every Ugandan should return to and be welcome in their country.

Talks between the new military regime and the main guerrilla movement which fought the Government of President Obote will start today as planned in Arusha, Tanzania, sources said.

But little progress was expected from the meeting between members of the ruling Military Council and the leader of the National Resistance Army, Mr Yoweri Museveni.

More bodies and horror stories are emerging from all over the country (Richard Dowden writes).

More than 1,000 skeletons have been retrieved from detention centres in the West Nile area of Kampala in an exercise organized by the former local MP, Mr P. K. Sseengendo, and the Rev George Mukibi, a Church of Uganda minister.

Residents say that special forces, under the direction of President Obote, took women and children as well as men and killed them in selected places. Some were strangled and others beaten to death.

At Namulenge, 15 miles north of Kampala, Western journalists found the skeletons at the cotton research centre, which appeared to have been turned into an extermination centre. The local Church of Uganda pastor, Christopher Sempa, said that if he had reported it he would have been killed.

He said that he once found piles of bodies and that the area had been burnt to try to destroy the evidence. He put the number of people killed there at several thousands.

The West Nile district became a battleground between Government forces and guerrillas, with local people caught in the middle. Many who did not escape were killed by the Ugandan Army or held in special centres by the Government.

Woman, 74, sues over amputations

A woman, aged 74, is suing

Lincolnshire Area Health Authority after both her legs were amputated when routine chirophy treatment allegedly went wrong.

Mrs Grace Moore, of Simons Green, Lincoln, claims gangrene set in after the incident five years ago. She said she had rejected a £5,000 out of court settlement offered by the authority and added: "My life is ruined. All I want to do is buy a bungalow adapted for my needs."

Mrs Moore said she was suing the health authority for negligence. "The chiropodist cut into my flesh when she was cutting my toe nails and then put a spray on me," she said. "I was poisoned within minutes."

"Later I was taken to hospital and they found I had gangrene. First I had to have two legs amputated, then I lost my left leg. While I was in hospital I got an infection and lost my other leg."

A spokesman for Lincolnshire health authority confirmed that legal action was taken by Mrs Moore but said he was unable to make any further comment.

Legal challenge by Laker takes off

Sir Freddie Laker started his

challenge yesterday to stop the £35 million out-of-court settlement made in the American courts over the collapse of his Skytrain operation in February 1982.

Sir Freddie and his first wife, Joan, are appealing against an order made last Monday by Mr John Bradburn, Chief Registrar of the High Court of Justice in Bankruptcy, allowing the liquidator of Laker Airways International to sign the deal and abandon the American anti-trust action against a number of airlines, including British Airways.

The appeal was heard in private before the Vice-Chancellor, Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson. Both Sir Freddie and Mrs Joan Laker are shareholders in Laker Airways International.

Before closing the court to the public and the Press, Sir Nicholas asked whether Sir Freddie and Mrs Joan Laker had a genuine financial interest which gave them the legal standing to try to block the settlement.

Mr John Beveridge, QC, for Sir Freddie, said the proposed settlement was pitifully inadequate and ill-considered. He added that the figures showed that success in the American action, in which it is claimed

Notts set to oust Chadburn

By Donald Macintyre
Labour Editor

Mr Ray Chadburn, president of the Nottinghamshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, was thought to have lost his appeal against an area executive decision to dismiss him from his post.

Mr Chadburn is to be told by letter of the decision which was taken after he appeared at a hearing during a meeting of the area executive in Mansfield yesterday.

Mr Chadburn had on previous occasions been barred from entering the building after area leaders decided he had repudiated his contract by not supporting the planned break-away from the NUM.

The move came as Mr Arthur Scargill, president of the union, claimed because only one Warwickshire pit, Daw Mill colliery, of the area's five pits had decided to ballot its members on leaving the NUM, this was a "major blow to the breakaway".

Mr Chadburn, who has joined Mr Scargill and other NUM leaders in a series of campaign meetings to persuade Nottinghamshire miners not to vote in favour of the new Union of Mineworkers in a ballot expected at the end of next month, left yesterday for a short holiday in East Anglia.

Mr Chadburn said after yesterday's hearing: "Everyone has the right to their opinion. I just wish someone would listen to my opinion for a change instead of trying to ram their opinions down my throat."

Both sides in the Nottinghamshire ballot were last night venting their claims they would win the leaders of the breakaway, expect a large majority in the ballot on the formation of the new union, but Mr Scargill said there was "growing confidence" throughout the British coalfield that the NUM would remain united.

Continued on back page, col 1

Hoover seek to recoup £1.5m

Debt halts production of C5

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

Work on the Sinclair C5 tricycle at the Hoover factory in Merthyr Tydfil, mid-Glamorgan, has stopped and will not resume until some of a £1.5 million debt owed to the company is paid by Sinclair Vehicles.

Manufacture of the vehicles at the Hoover assembly plant stopped about three weeks ago, but work continued until now on adaptations of the C5 for export.

Hoover has taken out a writ, as yet unserved, against Sinclair Vehicles for the unpaid debt.

Neither Hoover nor Sinclair would disclose the number of C5s which have been made or how many have been sold. The last official sales figure was 8,000. The production target at launch in January was set at 1,000 a week, but by April this figure had been cut by a tenth.

The product, which was intended to revolutionize personal transport, and planned as the forerunner of a series of electric vehicles, failed to prove popular with the public. Sir Clive Sinclair, its designer, blamed the poor sales on bad publicity.

Its short history has been peppered with incident. January: The machine is launched in a blaze of international



The Sinclair tricycle being road tested.

on the claims contained in advertising material. Production is cut by 90 per cent.

James Sir Clive claims that interest in the C5 in Europe and the United States is "very big". Hoover take out writ for non-payment.

August: Many high street distributors cut prices by up to 50 per cent.

The problem of the tricycle are just one of many now facing Sir Clive. Last week Mr Robert Maxwell, the publisher, withdrew his proposal to buy Sinclair Research, the computer and television side of the Sinclair empire. It has debts of about £15 million and owes money to Thomson-EMI, Times, AB Electronics (manufacturers of Sinclair computers and televisions), and Barclays and Citibank, the company's bankers.

About £10 million of Sinclair's products was ordered by Dixons, the high street retailers, last week.

Last night a Sinclair Vehicles spokesman said: "Production of the C5 vehicle has temporarily ceased. This is due to a shortage of certain components which are unable to be re-ordered while a financial settlement is pending."

"Once this has been concluded production is envisaged to recommence."

No football on TV as start of season looms

For the first time for 20 years the opening day of the football season will not be covered on television. With five days to go to the start of the League programme no agreement has yet been reached between the Football League and television companies over how much can be shown and when.

The BBC and ITV want the emphasis on live transmissions, the League on recorded highlights. Money is not a source of contention. Negotiations have been going on for almost a year and yesterday's breakdown means there will be no televised football until at least October.

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Transport union's strike threat in support of Liverpool councillors

Britain's biggest union, the Transport and General Workers' Union, is prepared to ask its 65,000 members on Merseyside to take industrial action if Labour councillors in Liverpool are disqualified from office or if the Government sends commissioners to run the city.

The union has seconded a full-time official to campaign for support for the Labour council among the union's membership in the docks, in the Ford and Vauxhall's car plants, and in other local industries.

Forty-nine Labour councillors face the threat of financial surcharges, bankruptcy and disqualification because they delayed fixing a budget and a rate as a result of the council's campaign against the Government's spending cuts.

The district auditor is considering whether to delay results in those cases for which the councillors should be held

responsible. Another possibility is that because the rate they set does not meet the council's spending targets, the city could run out of money and the Government may have to send in the commissioners.

The local official appointed by the TGWU to lead the union's campaign in support of the council is Mr Len McCluskey, district secretary for the union's white-collar section on Merseyside. Mr McCluskey describes his task as being "to raise the consciousness of our private sector membership in order that in the event of any major industrial action they will be tuned to the arguments and wish to participate in defence of the city council."

Mr McCluskey said the union had become involved in the council's affairs because a number of the councillors were sponsored by the union. "They are saying to us 'look, we are threatened with personal bank-

ruptcy, please do not leave us standing alone."

The 2,000 members of the union working for the council also fear they might lose their jobs because of the Government's financial constraints.

Mr McCluskey said that the city council was not seeking confrontation. He hoped an agreement that allowed the council to complete its policies could be reached with the Government.

But just how much support there would be for a strike among Liverpool council's 30,000 employees is not clear. Mr Ian Lowe, the chairman of the joint shop stewards' committee, said that members of his own union, the General Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union, had voted overwhelmingly to take indefinite strike action if councillors were disqualified or government commissioners appointed. With 9,000 members it is the largest of the town hall unions.

However, the National and Local Government Officers Association, the second largest union with 6,000 members, would first have to submit a strike resolution to a mass meeting and then ballot its members.

A few weeks ago the National Union of Teachers held a meeting for its 2,000 members and voted decisively against strike action.

The TGWU's support for a council dominated by the Militant Tendency may embarrass the Labour Party. However, Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the union said yesterday that his union had rejected any blanket bans or proscriptions on organizations within the Labour Party and would give the council "all the support we can".

Liverpool's disarray, page 4

Council threatened in inter-union wrangle

Liverpool City Council was embroiled in two internal rows yesterday. First a union threatened legal action against the Labour-controlled council over a move to grant school caretakers a 35-hour week. Then a council official was suspended after he allegedly leaked information to an opposition Liberal councillor.

The inter-union argument arose when it was disclosed that a local branch of the boilermakers' union which represents caretakers, had reached a 35-hour-week deal. The agreement infuriated the National Union of Public

Employees which claimed it would lead to cuts in services. The council also came in for criticism after an employee in the libraries service was suspended.

Mr Tony Mulhearn, president of Liverpool district Labour Party said: "The officer concerned has been suspended by his superiors for breach of confidence. It has nothing to do with Labour councillors."

Mr Derek Hutton, the council leader, said a 35-hour week deal was on offer to Nup. "If services begin to suffer we will then look at other ways of recruiting more staff."

Ulster bank staffs in strike vote

The 5,400 employees of the four main clearing banks in Northern Ireland have voted by an 84 per cent majority for an all-out strike in their dispute over pay and conditions.

Their union, the Irish Bank Officials Association based in Dublin, served notice on the employers yesterday for a strike to begin on August 27. Two of the bank chains involved are provincial subsidiaries of the Midland, and National Westminster; the other two have their headquarters in Dublin.

The association has rejected the employers' offer of a 4½ per cent pay rise, and is demanding 10 per cent, but the negotiations have become complicated by the long-standing issue of lunchtime closing.

The clearing banks in Northern Ireland close for an hour at lunchtime, to the apparent benefit of their now booming competitors, the building societies, and the Trustee Savings Bank. The societies have both lunch time and Saturday morning opening, while the TSB remains open all day during the week.

The clearing banks are prepared to improve on their offer but only with conditions, among them the start of serious negotiations about lunchtime opening.

The association's general secretary, Mr Job Slott, says that bank staffs have already been much reduced through computerization and that to remain open at lunchtime with staffing even more reduced, would involve unacceptable security risks.

Frauds hit home loan societies

Building society investigators have uncovered a false cheque fraud which could have resulted in the loss of millions of pounds.

Fake identities were used to open accounts using forged or stolen cheques and in some cases cash had been withdrawn before the nature of the cheque was established. Investigators said societies which require only a seven day period before cheques could be cashed were particularly vulnerable as banks could not always guarantee the clearing of cheques within a week.

The Abbey National, which operates a seven-day clearance has traced 100 false accounts. Mr John Bayliss, marketing general manager, said the loss had been relatively small.

He said: "At the end of the day, with £3 billion worth of clients, we are not going to inconvenience 99.99 per cent of our customers in order to deal with a small problem."

A spokesman for the Nationwide Building Society said they had identified 50 fake accounts but no money had been lost. The Nationwide allowed as many days as were required to clear a cheque, and the system was "fail-safe".

Britain's biggest building society, the Halifax, requires a 10-day period before cheques can be cashed.

Rates reform could cut firms' costs

By Colin Hughes

Reforms being considered by the Government could cut rent and rate costs to industry and businesses by up to 40 per cent, particularly in depressed areas, according to a research report published yesterday.

The report, by Herring Son and Daw, chartered accountants, predicts "substantial changes" in the tax burden on companies if the Government decides to revalue property and substitute business rates with a uniform business tax.

Herring Son and Daw looked at 11 sample towns and cities, and found that the proposed reforms would cut total outgoings for some businesses in Newcastle, which has the country's highest rate in the pound, by 40 per cent.

Large, old-fashioned industrial units would benefit most, but most modern industrial units would see rent and rate costs falling by between 10 per cent and 30 per cent.

The worst losers would be town-centre shops, with some facing a 15 per cent increase in

outgoings, although neighbourhood shops would expect a drop of 5 per cent in costs.

Mr Christopher Hedley, head of research at Herring Son and Daw, said that the present business rating system was clearly inequitable between different regions and types of property. A revaluation and imposition of uniform business tax would mainly resolve this.

The main barrier, however, would be the cost of revaluation to the taxpayer.

The average change to rate and rent costs in the 11 survey areas would be: Birmingham, down 4 per cent; Brighton, up 9 per cent; Bristol, stay the same; Croydon, up 5 per cent; Exeter, up 10 per cent; Leeds, down 9 per cent; Leicester, down 1 per cent; Manchester, down 3 per cent; Newcastle, down 17 per cent; Norwich, up 4 per cent; Reading, up 7 per cent.

A copy of the study can be obtained from Herring Son and Daw, 26-28 Saville St., London W1X 2QL, £50. A summary is free of charge.

IRA will no longer attack civilians, Galvin says

Mr Martin Galvin, the IRA's chief spokesman, said yesterday that terrorist attacks on civilians could not be defended. Speaking in an independent radio news interview, he said that outrages such as the Harrods bombing which killed six people in December 1983, should not be IRA policy.

Mr Galvin said: "The Harrods incident concerned me very deeply in the US. We questioned it internally. He added: "I am satisfied that it will not recur."

But he said the IRA was justified in attacks on security forces.

Most of the British public is opposed to the Home Secretary's attempts to influence the planned showing of the controversial *Real Lives* film on

Northern Ireland, according to the latest opinion poll.

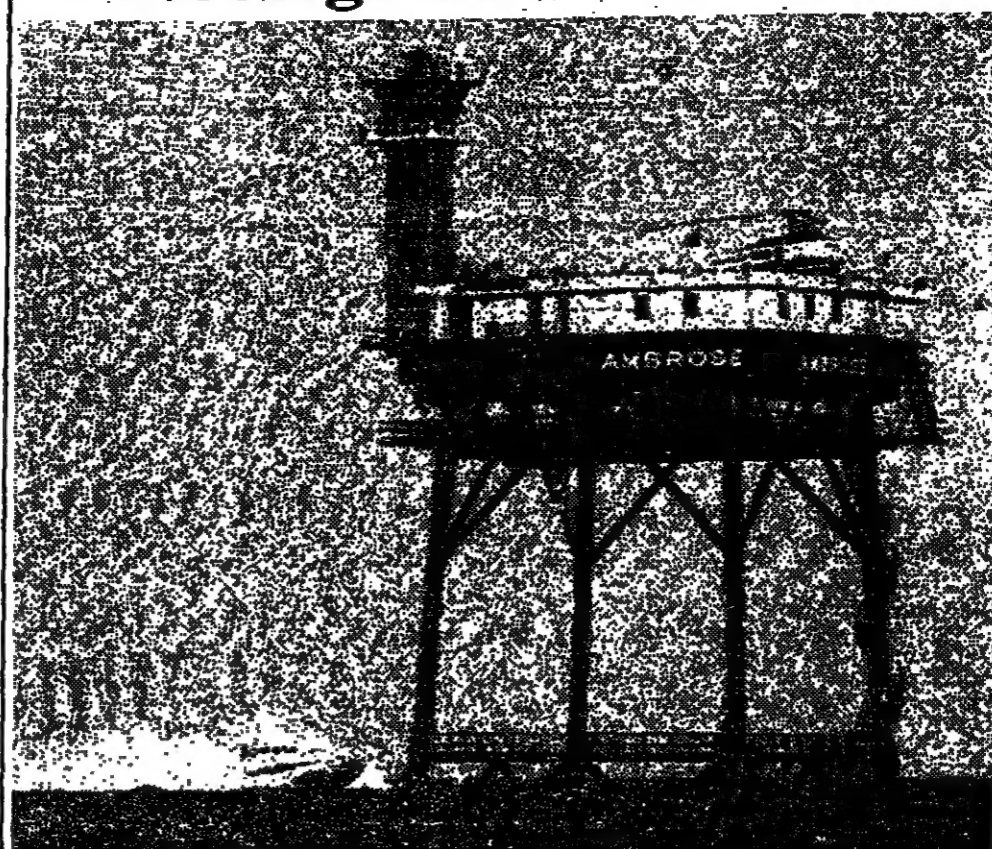
The survey, by NOP, finds that 69 per cent of those interviewed thought that the Home Secretary should not have intervened, and only 25 per cent supported his sending of a letter to the BBC which led to the programme's cancellation.

The strike by BBC journalists and those in commercial television also receives the support of the majority of those interviewed. A total of 48 per cent approved of the gesture of protest, while 39 per cent disapproved.

The makers of the programme were broadly supported. A total of 55 per cent said the programme should have been commissioned, with 29 per cent against.

Most of the British public is opposed to the Home Secretary's attempts to influence the planned showing of the controversial *Real Lives* film on

Icebergs threat to Atlantic challenge



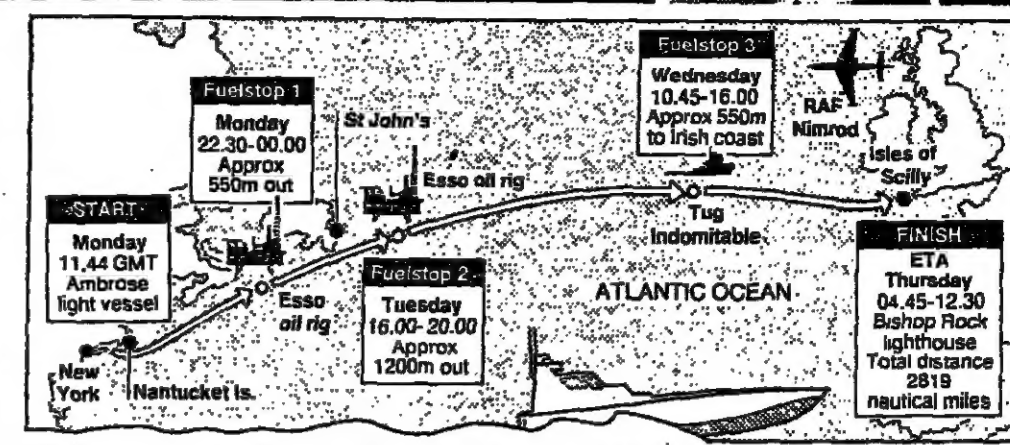
By Colin Hughes

August 12
Virgin Atlantic Challenger, the world's largest power boat, shot out of New York harbor at more than 40 knots yesterday to launch its three-day attempt to break the non-stop transatlantic speed sea crossing and bring the Blue Riband trophy back to Britain.

Barring disaster or bad weather, the 65-foot catamaran is on course to reduce the previous record of three days, 10 hours and 40 minutes, set by the liner SS United States in 1952, by between nine and 17 hours.

Shortly after crossing the start line near the Ambrose Light Tower outside New York at 11.44am yesterday, Mr Ted Toleman, the skipper, teleaxed London from the boat's bridge to report all was well.

Yesterday afternoon the boat's computer link to London recorded an average 42.5 knots, which, if sustained throughout the 2,949 nautical mile voyage, will bring the Challenger across the finishing line at the Bishop Rock lighthouse on the Scilly Isles at about 8am on Thursday morning taking 14



Challenger crossing the start line and right, Mr Richard Branson, the Virgin chief, on board the catamaran, waving goodbye in New York yesterday.

hours and 20 minutes off the record. Mr Toleman, also owner of Congar Marine, which built the £1.5 million boat, said the nine-man crew were relieved to be on their way after poor Atlantic weather conditions held them waiting for three weeks in New York.

Fog and icebergs are the most dangerous hazards. The Challenger will pass through the ice zone later today and the ice is at its worst for 100 years.

The boat, which uses 150 gallons of fuel an hour, was due to reach the first of three refuelling stops at an oil rig off Halifax, Nova Scotia, before midnight last night. The second will be at Esso's Sedco 709 rig beyond Cape Race, Newfoundland, early this evening, after 1,200 miles at sea.

On the longest leg, to rendezvous with an ocean-going tug, Indomitable, tomorrow, the Challenger will use 13 tons of fuel, leaving only a critical 200

gallons in the tank. For that reason an RAF Nimrod will be on hand 550 miles off the Irish coast to help the two boats meet. Mr Powell, the London race co-ordinator, dismissed reports from America that because the craft is a speedboat it does not qualify for the trophy.

The curator of the Merchant Marine Academy Maritime Museum, on Long Island, New York, where the trophy is housed, says the Challenger is not a passenger ship.

Equal pay rises loom, firms told

Industry in Britain was warned yesterday that it faces pay increases of between 5 per cent and 10 per cent under regulations to prevent discrimination between men and women.

Mr Willie Wood, manager of personnel services in the PA Consulting Group, said they were "no less than a timebomb ticking away in the heart of British industry."

The Equal Pay (Amendment) Regulation 1983 - more popularly known as Equal Pay for Work of Equal Value - came into effect on January 1, 1984, giving workers the right to claim equality with others doing equivalent work.

"This is of course a laudable aim, the objectives of which nobody should disagree", Mr Wood said. "But recent cases at industrial tribunals have suggested that the Government may have spawned a monster in loosening this particular legislation on an unsuspecting economy."

The regulation went far beyond what either the European Community or the Government ever intended and could increase labour costs, pricing British goods out of markets and putting large numbers of jobs at risk.

Several unions representing women workers were preparing claims. Apex, the white-collar union, has organized 100 applications to the Birmingham industrial tribunal, including claims for women in blue-chip companies such as GEC Telecommunications, TI Reynolds and Rolls-Royce.

The Fastnet Race

Le Bon denies keel hit rock

By Michael Horsnell

Attempts to recover the £1 million yacht Drum England continued throughout yesterday, as an inquest into the mishap began.

The yacht, which capsized during the Fastnet Race on Sunday, trapping Simon Le Bon, the pop star, in an air pocket, turned turtle when the keel sheered off in a Force 8 gale.

The craft was secured by a team of divers about five miles east of Falmouth, in Cornwall, as weather conditions moderated.

The team, based on the local diving boat McAllister, skippered by Mr Stuart Farman, aged 44, were yesterday at-

tempting to bring her on to her side with buoyancy bags. Later she was expected to be towed to Mevagissey.

Le Bon, aged 26, lead singer of Duran Duran, yesterday went in a hired boat to inspect the hull in which he was trapped for 40 minutes, before being led to safety by a Royal Navy diver.

Last night Le Bon was on board the same rescue helicopter which had flown him to safety, having been winched off the motor boat alongside the Drum England. The Royal Navy had offered to fly him back to land for an urgent meeting.

It is understood the theory that the keel hit a rock has been ruled out as a cause of the capsizing. Mr Skip Novak, the American-born captain of the 77-foot yacht, said yesterday: "I will require a thorough investigation of the design and building to see why the keel fell off. Obviously there is a reason because it just failed in a jiffy. There was a loud bang and 20 seconds later the boat was upside down."

An unspecified design of construction fault is being put forward as the reason by yachting experts in Cowes, Isle of Wight, where the race started, in Falmouth.

The lightweight hull of Drum England is extremely strong and was not damaged by the accident. The keel was a separate alloy fabrication filled with lead and bolted to the hull. It broke off at the base plate.

Shortly before Cowes the yacht touched the bottom in a maxi race series and broke her rudder, an accident which experts believe may have weakened her structure.

Before leaving to inspect the overturned hull, Mr Le Bon said: "I can tell you we didn't hit a rock."

Of the 236 yachts which set out on the 600-mile race from Cowes on Saturday, 122 had retired by the time the storm abated yesterday. Those included 21 of the Admiral's Cup yachts.

The wet weather has brought a boom to underground tourist attractions in Wales, with former coal and slate mines and underground cave complexes attracting record crowds as holidaymakers attempt to beat the showers.

Warning to doctors on stress drug

The second most commonly prescribed tranquillizer for treating anxiety symptoms has other benzodiazepine tranquillizers and its use is best limited to short courses or intermittent treatment, doctors have been told.

Lorazepam, which also comes under the brand name Alivan and Almazine, is an effective drug, "but there is great concern about its potential to produce physical and psychological dependence", according to the current issue of *Drug and Therapeutics Bulletin*.

"Several withdrawal symptoms may make it more difficult to stop treatment with lorazepam than with diazepam", the bulletin says.

The bulletin says that although lorazepam is the second most commonly prescribed drug for mild anxiety, "it has no important advantages over other benzodiazepines". Its use is best limited to courses of treatment of a week or two.

£100-a-week to laze around show house

A young couple are being offered £100 a week each to "lounge around at home" watching television, reading and taking afternoon naps.

The full-time homework, according to the job description, will also include bobbies, housework and, weather permitting, some sunbathing in the garden.

Both jobs are being advertised in local newspapers in Berkshire this week by Miller Homes, the property developers. The company wants a man and woman to live in one of its show houses and to treat it like home.

"We are anxious to present a homely atmosphere in the show houses at our Finchampstead site in Berkshire," Mr Leo Lennox, the marketing director, said. "Most show houses are a bit like the Mary Celeste in that you get the impression that the resident family has somehow disappeared."

The applicants do not have to be married but, the company says, must be compatible because they will have to spend "all day, every day" together. One of them should be a reasonable cook because they will be required to entertain local dignitaries to lunch.

"If we find the right couple there will be plenty of work in other show houses during the coming months," Mr Lennox said. "We would consider someone even if they had a pet dog, provided it was house trained."

Five held under terrorism Act

A Briton and four Middle East nationals were being held at separate police stations yesterday under the Prevention of Terrorism Act after a weekend fire in a warehouse at Eastleigh airport, near Southampton.

The fire damaged equipment was awaiting shipment overseas. Hampshire police would not comment on the nature of the equipment or its destination.

Irish Press back

Dublin's *Irish Press* and *Evening Press* newspapers were back on sale yesterday for the first time since May when unions refused to accept terms for the introduction of new print technology. Also back were news services from the State-run television and radio network where journalists held a 24-hour strike over alleged censorship.

Crash kills three

A former senior policeman, retired Det Chief Supt Bill Lumsden, aged 60, and his wife Lillian, aged 57, of Southport Road, Lydiate, north Merseyside, were killed in a head-on collision on Merseyside yesterday. The driver of the other vehicle, Mr Kevin Coward, aged 17, of Moorhey Road, Maghull, also died.

Fund support

The 350,000-strong, right-wing *elcricians'* union is today expected to become the tenth trade union to announce a big majority in favour of retaining its political fund in line with TUC policy.

Popular warship

Visitors to the Tudor warship, Mary Rose, in Portsmouth have trebled each day since the £130,000 viewing galleries opened 11 days ago allowed 500 people to view it every hour instead of 140.

Collie appeal

An appeal has been lodged at Lincoln Crown Court to a collie, Spot, which Stamford magistrates ordered to be destroyed within 28 days last month after biting two people. The dog was abducted by animal lovers before the sentence could be carried out.

Birds halt work

Contractors working on the £47 million Trinity container terminal at Felixstowe, Suffolk, have agreed to stop work until eggs laid by more than 20 rare terns have hatched.

Vice man jailed

Victor Mehra, aged 46, of Maida Vale, London, the owner of a sauna and massage parlour in Archway Road, Highgate, was jailed for nine months at the Central Criminal Court yesterday after he was found guilty of living off the earnings of prostitution.

Skills crisis

The SDP has proposed a five-year crash programme to end the shortage of skills in the higher technology electronics sector.

Crisis debate

French MPs were recalled from holiday by President Mitterrand to debate the amended law on New Caledonia.

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The Times overseas selling prices: Africa £10.00, Asia £10.00, Australia £10.00, Canada £10.00, Europe £10.00, India £10.00, Japan £10.00, New Zealand £10.00, North America £10.00, Oceania £10.00, South America £10.00, Western Europe £10.00.

SDP sets out five-year programme to end skills shortage in electronics

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

The Social Democratic Party yesterday proposed a five-year crash programme to end the skills crisis in high technology electronics.

A policy paper, *Focus on the Future: A Strategy for Investment*, to be discussed at next month's party conference in Torquay, gives a warning that the present British shortage of trained engineers could double within the next three years.

It also maintains that the trade deficit on high technology products could increase more than fourfold, to £9,000 million, within the next five years if urgent action is not taken to exploit new technologies.

The paper said: "By the middle of the next decade, the information technology industry alone is expected to have an annual worldwide output in excess of £1,000 million, making it the largest industry in the world."

The paper argues that without positive action by government, there is a danger that competitors will increase their lead.

"We are clearly an ingenious

nation. Not only television, but also jet engines, radar, penicillin and many of the developments in computing and biotechnology first saw the light of day in this country.

Trinity College, Cambridge, for instance, has produced more Nobel Prize winners in science than the nation of Japan. But we have never been effective at turning that genius to commercial advantage.

The paper proposes cash incentives to stimulate new technology ventures, including a £200 million, five-year commitment to research, innovation and commercial exploration. Tax incentives and subsidized credit would also be used to bolster companies which had to be "nursed through" the early phases of development and commercialization.

But the paper also says: "Britain's ability to exploit the new technologies is directly linked to the level of appropriate skills and education across the population as a whole. We need to set the basis for a 'computerate' society."

There was a shortfall of about 50,000 engineers in manufacturing and service industries and in the information technology industries it had been estimated that last year's shortfall of 1,500 engineers could increase to 5,000 by 1988.

"Yet the number graduating in engineering each year is only 15,000, and only 4,000 of these are in electrical and electronic engineering," the paper says.

Among the proposals to be considered are a five-year "mobilization programme" to train more graduates and technicians in skills in short supply, and to broaden the educational base so that all school students up to the age of 18 would be obliged to take a combination of mathematics, science, technical and vocational subjects, in addition to any arts and humanities studies.

The paper proposes an immediate 10 per cent increase in the £500 million science research budget, and a concerted effort to allow civilian industry to exploit the £2,100 million defence research and development programme.

Liverpool, a city in disarray: 2

Police and public determined to stamp out drugs traffic

The message sprayed on a wall in Granby Street, Liverpool 8, is simple and to the point. It says: "This is Toxteth, not Croxteth. Strictly Ganja."

It was written, several weeks ago, in spontaneous response to an article in one of the more lurid Sunday newspapers about the alleged availability of heroin in the area. Ganja is West Indian slang for cannabis which nobody would deny is used by some Toxteth residents. But the fact that the harder drug is barely a problem in the area is one point on which police and locals agree.

However, that is not the case in the rest of Liverpool, particularly as the graffiti artist declared, in the district of Croxteth, a sprawling and soulless housing estate six miles away towards the city fringes. As if Liverpool did not have enough problems, heroin abuse is now growing at an alarming rate, particularly among the young. The case of Jason Fitzsimmons, who died after taking an overdose of heroin, cannabis and methadone, was followed within a week by the death of a 21-year-old addict with a £35 a day habit who also lived in Norris Green, a mile away from Jason. The area is close to Croxteth.

Earlier this year a 17-year-old addict died and police believe there may have been other deaths which, officially attributed to other illnesses, were brought on by heroin addiction.

One of the six "force goals", a notice sent out to every officer on Merseyside, listed the identification and prosecution of traffickers. Concern about the size of the problem has led senior officers to increase the strength of the drugs squad. It will be more than doubled from its present complement of 13 within a few weeks.

Official figures show the sharp increase in heroin abuse but no one pretends they reveal anything like the full number of users and dealers - 1982: 45

The death from an overdose of heroin, methadone and cannabis of Jason Fitzsimmons, aged 14, highlighted Liverpool's growing hard drugs problem. It also provoked an unprecedented response from the public and a new determination by police to stamp out drug trafficking. In the second of a three-part series on the city's troubles, PETER DAVENPORT examines the dimensions of the problem.

Court gives a chance to heroin baby's mother

A mother aged 18 whose baby was born a heroin addict has won the first step in her fight to keep her child. The boy, now aged two months and a ward of court, was dependent on the drug because his mother had been a drug addict during her pregnancy.

Yesterday she was in serious danger of being jailed for offences she committed while on the drug. But Southport magistrates put her on two years probation, enabling her to continue daily visits to see the child which is being weaned off heroin in a Liverpool hospital.

Afterwards the unmarried mother, who says she has conquered her addiction, said she was delighted with the decision. "Now there's a good chance I will get the baby back and that's what I want more than anything," she said.

The girl, from Sefton in Merseyside, had been taking heroin in the hospital. Yesterday she pleaded guilty to stealing three gold watches worth £750, assaulting a policeman and also gaining £17 by deception.

Her solicitor, Mr Ian Harris, pleaded with magistrates not to send her to jail. He said: "If she loses her liberty she will lose her child, or rather the child will lose his natural mother. It's a terrible thing she has done to this child and she knows that."

Incidents involving heroin leading to 70 arrests; 1983: 191 incidents leading to 373 arrests; 1984: 419 incidents leading to 835 arrests. Projected figures for this year look to be on a par with 1984.

According to Det Chief Insp Peter Deary, head of the drugs squad, there have been notable successes. In one raid last year on the house of a known heroin dealer, police also arrested 48 would-be customers who had arrived individually as officers were searching the house.

Mr David Alton, Liberal MP for Liverpool Edge Hill, says that the city is "awash" with heroin and that "wraps" can be bought for as little as £5. There

Tomorrow: The role

Check made on German opposition party's cash

Bonn (Reuters) - West German prosecutors said yesterday that they were investigating allegations that the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) evaded tax on donations to party funds by channelling payments through a charitable research foundation.

The inquiry by the Bonn Public Prosecutor's Office is the first to implicate the SPD on a big scale in alleged illegal funding practices by West German political parties, mainly during the 1970s.

An office spokesman, Herr Peter Iwand, said the investigation focused on possible tax evasion by senior officials of the SPD's political foundation, the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, including its president, Herr Walter Hesselbach.

Herr Hesselbach, former chairman of the trade union-owned Bank für Gemeinwirtschaft, and the SPD confirmed that the inquiry was under way but said the allegations were baseless.

The magazine *Der Spiegel* said more than DM6 million (£1.6 million) in funds for the SPD had been channelled illegally through the foundation.

Der Spiegel, citing what it said was evidence compiled by prosecutors, alleged the money was transferred to the SPD via a Swiss bank account held by the Israeli Labour party's Fritz Naphthali Foundation.

Herr Hesselbach told the newspaper *Bild* that the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung had given millions of marks to the Fritz Naphthali Foundation for projects in Israel.

Ex-official accused: Herr Egon Franke, a former minister, was going to trial over the disappearance of DM6 million from his ministry's budget, the Bonn district court said.

Herr Franke, SPD Minister for Inter-German Affairs from 1969 to 1982, faces charges of breach of trust involving public funds.

His former chief assistant, Herr Edgar Hill, faces charges over the disappearance of DM460,000 from the ministry budget.



A patient in a San Salvador hospital voicing support for health workers during a recent strike, one of a series hurting the economy. The unions are increasingly led by the revolutionary left.

The war that soldiers cannot win

In the second of two reports on the struggle for power in El Salvador, John Carlin looks at the increasing strife over the economy.



American Government support for El Salvador has never been more generous. The Salvadorean Army has never looked stronger or more professional. No Salvadorean government has had as much credibility abroad, as much electoral support at home, as that of President José Napoleón Duarte. Yet Señor Duarte, according to his closest advisers, has rarely been more worried about his country's future.

The democratic edifice he has made it his life's ambition to construct in El Salvador has one conspicuous flaw: it has no economic foundation.

The guerrillas are waiting to pounce, expecting to capitalize on the frustrations of an already poor population becoming daily more impoverished.

"We've won the military war. We've won the diplomatic war," says Colonel Reynaldo López Nolla, Vice-Minister of Public Security. "But we still have to win the economic war."

The bespectacled colonel, generally seen as the shrewdest officer in the Army high command, said that if the economy fell apart, the gains made in the military, political, and diplomatic fields would count for nothing and the war would once again be in danger of being lost.

Particularly alarming to the government is the realization that the labour unions in the country's key public sector - education, health, social security - have been surreptitiously infiltrated, and are now in large measure controlled by the revolutionary left, political supporters of the guerrilla Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN).

Basic prices are rising at well over 50 per cent annually, wages are static, the currency is slipping fast and foreign

investment is impossible to attract. The American Agency for International Development's budget for El Salvador is now larger than the Government's own budget. Dependence on the US has created an artificial economy which a Duarte aide called "a disaster".

Having ruled out the possibility of an outright military victory, the FMLN's declared strategy is "to destabilize the Government".

"We expect many more strikes this year," said a left-wing labour leader. "We also expect more government repression. It's the only way they have to try and stop us making our wage demands."

Even the moderate Peasant Workers' Unions, hitherto loyal to President Duarte, are increasingly disenchanted, increasingly radical, and ready, as their leaders have said, to risk a violent government backlash.

Last month the best-known moderate labour leader, Señor Samuel Maldonado, leader of the umbrella UPD organization, set aside his characteristic meekness and declared he

considered the Government had "broken" the Social Pact it signed with the UPD before the elections.

"We feel betrayed by the Christian Democrat Government. We used to think they represented the interests of the working classes. What's worse, none of the existing political parties offers us a valid alternative," he said.

The truest barometer of the health of the Salvadorean economy is felt to be provided by the traditional cash crops: coffee, cotton and sugar. Production levels of the first two have halved since the civil war began in 1979. Guerrilla sabotage has been largely to blame, as it has been in other crippled areas of the economy.

The guerrillas are doing their best to destroy the economy, then inciting hungry workers to rise up in protest against the Government. So far President Duarte has come up with nothing to counter this ploy, which is eroding his popular support and leaving a vacuum in Salvadorean politics ready for the FMLN to fill.

Concluded.

Australian authors deplore TV quality

From Tony Duboudin, Melbourne

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation, which had come under increasing criticism in the past 18 months, received another blow with the publication yesterday of an open letter signed by 13 prominent Australians, including Nobel prize winning author Patrick White, calling for a Government enquiry on the organization.

The letter accused the ABC management of persisting in a clownish quest for popular relevance. "The ABC was once the voice of Australia. Now switch on to the tones of trendy hucksters who are not even good at selling."

"Worst of all, it had not been granted its pieces of silver. The ratings it longs for elude it because its real audience has walked away."

The letter also called for the resignation of Mr Geoffrey Whitehead, the corporation's

managing director, and Mr Ken Meyer, the chairman.

Among other signatories were authors Frank Moorehouse, Thomas Kennedy, Nancy Kising, Christopher Koch, who actually wrote the letter, and Edmund Campion, composer Nigel Butterley, poet Les Murray and judges Mr Justice Michael Kirby, president of the New South Wales Court of Appeal, Justice Elizabeth Evans, chief judge of the Family Court, and Mr James McClelland, a former minister in the Whitlam Labour Government and head of the Royal Commission into British nuclear testing in Australia.

Mr Whitehead described the letter as a load of nonsense. The dispute comes after the announcement in June that the corporation will cut 600 staff in the next year as an economy measure.

Singapore swoop on drug link suspects

By Paul Routledge, Singapore

Police are claiming to have smashed a "Singapore connection" in heroin trafficking between South-East Asia and Australia. Four men are in preventive detention here after a month-long investigation by the Central Narcotics Bureau into the smuggling of drugs to Sydney and Melbourne.

Those held include the alleged local "Mr Big" of the operation, a 40-year-old man who recruited heroin couriers from hopelessly indebted gamblers prepared to risk the death penalty for payments of up to £10,000 a time.

The couriers carried heroin powder in plastic bags strapped to the chest. The ring was uncovered after the arrest of Singaporeans in Australia in June and closer collaboration between the police of the two countries had netted a substantial haul of suspected traffickers.

Because they were not caught "with the goods on them", the four suspects are unlikely to

Canada-US polar row erupts again

From John Best, Ottawa

A long-simmering sovereignty dispute between Canada and the United States has been rekindled with the voyage of a powerful US Coast Guard icebreaker through the Northwest Passage.

Canadian sensitivities were aroused because the Americans made plans to send the icebreaker, the *Polar Sea*, through the passage, without asking Ottawa's permission. Instead, the US informed Canada of the plans.

The 11-day voyage, which ended at the weekend, went ahead to a constant drumbeat of criticism from nationalist groups in Canada and daily coverage in its newspapers.

Most of the criticism was directed at the Government for allegedly failing to stand up for Canada's rights over the passage.

Canada maintains that it is an internal waterway; the US holds that it is an international strait.

The passage - mostly ice, some of it many feet thick - winds its way among Canada's northern islands, beginning at Lancaster Sound to the east and ending at the Beaufort Sea, an arm of the Arctic Ocean.

The US insisted that the voyage of the *Polar Sea*, a 13,000-ton craft capable of breaking two metres of ice at three knots continuously, was purely operational and "without prejudice" to Canada's claim of sovereignty.

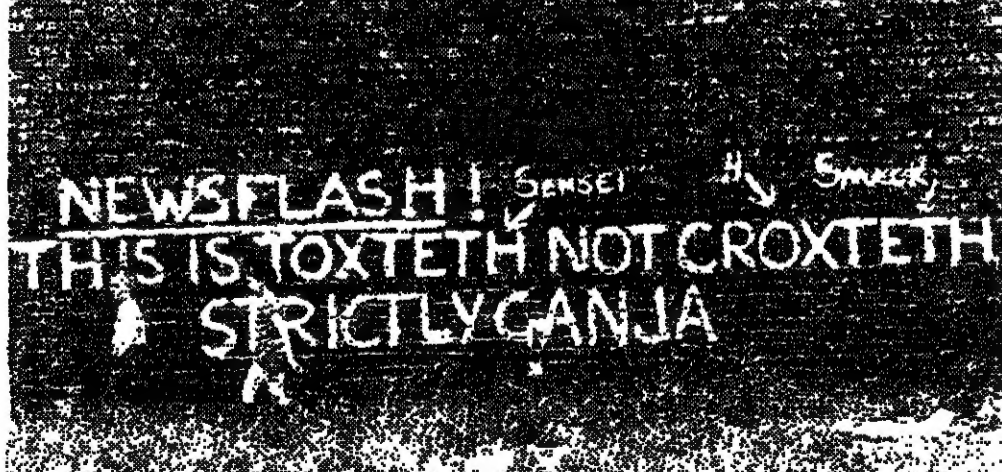
Presented with a *fait accompli*, Canada put the best face it could on the affair. At the last minute it issued a statement "authorizing" the voyage, while expressing regret at America's unwillingness to recognize its sovereignty over the waters.

It also sought, and got, assurances that the *Polar Sea* met Canadian construction standards for northern navigation, and that Canadian anti-pollution regulations would be respected.

One nationalist-minded group, the Council of Canadians, became so incensed that it sent a light plane to drop leaflets on the ship's deck, calling on its crew to return to international waters. The leaflets, contained in a cylinder wrapped in a Canadian flag, had no visible effect.

In challenging Canada's claim the US has more in mind than just the Northwest Passage. It is also concerned with the integrity of its own claim that maritime passages elsewhere, for example the Straits of Malacca between Indonesia and Malaysia, and Singapore, are also international waterways.

The US-Canada dispute is not likely to boil over as long as the Northwest Passage is not used for commercial purposes. However it could flare up if American oil corporations ever tried to put into effect long-discussed plans for shipping crude petroleum from Alaska's north slope through the passage to refineries on the US east coast.



The wall artist's proclamation that cannabis, not heroin, rules in Toxteth

Protest over cheap Ulster sewer pipes

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Ireland producers could just about live with the present level of demand. But there are about 12 producers, twice as many as we need.

The UK Concrete Pipe Association says that the pipes made in Northern Ireland are benefiting from the high level of government grants peculiar to the province and from much reduced shipping costs.

In spite of a common price agreement in the cement industry, the Northern Ireland pipe industry is said to be buying cement from West Germany and Spain at £35 a tonne in Belfast, against nearly £50 a tonne in Glasgow.

The association estimates that "imports" from Northern Ireland will rise from about 2,000 tonnes three years ago to 15,000 tonnes this year.

The Department of Trade and Industry was very unsympathetic. Mr Awcock said, because the province was part of the United Kingdom. "But it does not make sense to allow unemployment from Northern Ireland to be moved to Scotland, where employment is also scarce." Employment in pipe making in the United Kingdom has fallen from 5,500 in 1973 to about 2,500 this year.

The two companies the industry is complaining about, Macrete of Toombridge and a subsidiary of Redland, admit to selling pipes below their usual "home" market rates, but deny that they receive any special government assistance.

Of Britain's 140,000 miles of sewers 27 per cent was laid before 1900 and in 1983-84 there were 5,000 sewer failures including 3,500 collapses, 10 per day. That is estimated to increase by 3 per cent a year.

Poisoners return to taunt Japan

Tokyo (AP) - The notorious Japanese extortionist group which has poisoned confectionery made by several companies has issued a taunting note saying it will stop attacking firms, according to newspaper reports.

"The Man With 21 Faces", as the group calls itself, broke a four-month silence with a letter addressed to "Members of the Diet (parliament)".

The letter was sent to three Osaka-based newspapers five days after a prefectural police chief in western Japan committed suicide, apparently because of his forces' failure to catch the group.

It said: "We are responding to the many deaths of (Shiga Prefecture Police Director Shoji) Yamamoto. 'We're going to be eating food from the panics', but there are still plenty of other things we can do. This scoundrel's life is interesting."

The letter was printed in full by the *Nyodo News Service*.

The saga began in March 1984 when Katsuhisa Ezaki, president of a leading confectioners, Ezaki Glico Co, was kidnapped and held for ransom. He escaped unharmed.

In October, the group carried out threats to poison confectionery sent by Morioka Seika. No one was hurt by the toxic chocolates, all of which were clearly marked "contains poison".

Mr Yamamoto, police chief of Shiga, burnt himself to death on threats to poison himself to death on Wednesday, the day after his retirement.

No reasons for suicide were included in three wills he left behind, but Shiga officials were blamed for a blunder in November during the chase for the extortionists.

Peking pays price of expansion

From Mary Lee, Peking

China's capital is bursting at the seams, according to a recent survey by the Peking Statistics Bureau. Not only does the city have to cope with a commuter population of 880,000 daily, but also has to house and feed another 21,000 tourists who come to visit the Forbidden City, the Ming tombs and the Great Wall each day.

In addition, it has 660,000 "temporary residents". The capital has a total population of nearly 9.5 million.

Before the communist takeover in 1949, Peking's population stood at just over a million. The increase has not been matched by a similar expansion in housing, transport and utilities, so it is hardly surprising that the municipal authorities are complaining about the strain on amenities.

"The Peking railway station is crowded throughout the year," a recent newspaper report said, grossly understating the chaos there.

There are nearly four million bicycles in Peking, and during rush hours it seems every one is on the road, adding to the congestion.

The survey said 75 per cent of the daily commuters come by road, mostly on buses, 24 per cent by train and one per cent by air.

The reason for this influx is the post-Mao economic liberalization which had brought more foreign and Chinese businessmen to the capital in search of profit. There are more than 560 representative offices of foreign companies in Peking.

Mr Chen Xifeng, the Mayor, declared proudly this year that the large foreign presence in the castle has attracted fulltime money-changers from other provinces.

There are nearly 260 free markets and trading centres in the capital, in addition to 249 vegetable markets. The stall holders are willing to risk a brush with the law by changing Chinese renminbi for foreign exchange certificates. They

then take the coupons to Canton, where they can buy imported goods.

But the capital is also being envied for its wealth. The latest survey said 80 per cent of the goods and foodstuffs in Peking's markets are sold by farmers from other provinces.

One enterprising farmer from Inner Mongolia even brought a camel to the capital; he makes money with it in a park in the Western hills by renting it to people who want to pose for photographs on its back.

The wealth of the capital is what has drawn about 330,000 people to look for jobs here as construction workers or domestic helps. A directive has been issued that capital construction (a record 6.5 billion yuan at the end of June) should be reduced by more than 30 per cent in future. The municipal authorities have announced that the construction of a number of office buildings, exhibition halls and auditoriums will be suspended.

The *Hainan Daily* made a 4.3 million yuan (£1 million) profit on import deals, and its chief editor received 1,000 yuan this year alone, it added.

A total of 143 cases of embezzlement, bribery and other economic crimes have been investigated, with four people accused of pocketing more than a million yuan.

The head of Hainan's government, Mr Lei Yu, and his deputy, Mr Chen Yuyi, have been dismissed and other officials reprimanded for turning a blind eye to the swindle.

The weekly *Peking Review* said the illegal trade in 3.3 million cars, colour television sets, video-recorders and motor cycles involved 872 companies and 88 government departments of Hainan.

Of the 89,000 vehicles illegally imported, 37,000 were reclaimed and 45,000 have been sold at normal prices.

Sri Lanka turns down Tamil charter as devolution talks restart

From Richard Ford, Delhi

The four demands of militant Tamil separatists were rejected by a Sri Lankan government delegation as a second round of talks on the ethnic divisions on the island began yesterday. A government spokesman said that it was unlikely the negotiations, being held under the auspices of India, in Thimphu, Bhutan, would be adjourned as they were when they became deadlocked last month. A conclusion had to be reached within a week.

Tamil militants are demanding recognition of a separate national identity, respect for the integrity of their traditional homeland, recognition of their right to self-determination and citizenship rights for all Tamils who have made Sri Lanka their home.

The militants and the moderate Tamil United Liberation

Front will respond this morning to the rejection of their charter, which was considered to be an opening negotiating position, rather than a final demand.

Mr Hector Jayewardene, brother of President Jayewardene, who is leading the Sri Lankan government delegation, said that acceptance of the militants' demands would amount to granting a separate Tamil nation. It is thought the government will only go as far as offering greater devolution to local councils.

In India, Mr Ramesh Bhandari, the Foreign Secretary, said that Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Prime Minister, on meeting he had had with the Sri Lankan President, senior ministers and members of opposition parties, a government spokesman in Delhi said no senior Indian official would be present in

Thimphu during the talks, though it is likely that if there is a danger of breakdown Mr Bhandari will fly to Bhutan.

● **COLOMBO:** A time bomb found on a night train from Jaffna, in the northern province, was defused at Colombo's busiest station yesterday. It had been set to explode at 7.45am, the height of the rush hour (Vijitha Yapa writes).

A railway sweep found the 16lb device in a bag on a seat in the empty train. The railway authorities summoned the army bomb disposal unit.

A note in Tamil inside the bag said: "Major - bring this along to the camp". It was signed Red Army Tamil Eelam. The Minister of Transport, Mr M. H. Mohammed, immediately ordered that all trains to and from Jaffna should be searched at every station.



10,000 riot over Rawalpindi killings

Rawalpindi (AP) - Police used baton charges and tear gas to disperse thousands of people rioting here in protest at police handling of the murder of nine members of a poor family.

More than 10,000 people had surged through the street during the night, erecting barricades, hurling bricks and rocks at police and attacking vehicles and shops in the city, which adjoins Pakistan's capital of Islamabad.

Backed by tear-gas bombardment, police armed with 6ft steel-tipped bamboo rods repeatedly charged the mobs, arresting about 70 men and beating them before taking them away.

The trouble began when news spread across the city on Sunday night that nine members of a family, including five children, had been beaten to death with bricks and clubs by men who broke into their home. Residents flocked to the scene in the Dhow Khabba area.

Mourning processions in several parts of the city got out of control when some angry marchers began hurling bricks at the police.

The rioters accused them of being unable to protect the public.

Last night, the Government had poured more than 2,000 officers into Rawalpindi. Helmed police armed with machine guns, rifles and tear gas guns were stationed every few yards along the city's main commercial road. Large contingents were patrolling the city in lorries and buses to prevent new outbreaks of rioting.

The authorities said one police officer had been shot and wounded. They had no figures on how many people had been injured.

The Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, an umbrella group of political parties opposed to the government, called on people to boycott tomorrow's independence day celebrations in protest at the killings and the lack of police protection.

PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE

Syria: Mahmud Baidun

By Caroline Moorehead

A Lebanese lawyer, aged 47, kidnapped from Lebanon and taken to Syria, has been held in a military prison near Damascus without charge or trial for the past 14 years. In October 1984 it was reported that Mahmud Baidun had been on a hunger strike for 43 days to draw attention to his case, but the Syrian authorities have always refused to answer appeals for his release. He was not included in President Assad's general amnesty earlier this year.

Baidun was an active supporter of the ruling Syrian Baath party in the late sixties and one of a group of Lebanese Baathists who were given funds to produce a newspaper, *al-Raya*, in Lebanon.

After the November 1970 coup brought President Assad to power a number of supporters of the previous government were arrested, and *al-Raya*, which continued to back the former regime, was instructed to return its funds to Syria.

If refused. Soon afterwards, Baidun, an avowed supporter of the previous president, and one of three signatories of *al-Raya's* bank account, was abducted.



Mahmud Baidun: Went on hunger strike for 43 days.

Syrian security hopes shaken

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Perhaps *L'Orient le Jour* was overdoing it a little yesterday morning when its headlines proclaimed "A Sunday of Hell". Lebanese police - who have little else to do but count explosions - even claimed that more than 3,000 shells had been fired across the desolation of Beirut's 10-year-old front line, in itself perhaps an exaggeration. After all, only 14 civilians were killed and 6 wounded.

The effect, however, was immediate. After weeks of self-censorship by the Syrians in their own security plan for Beirut - two speeches by President Gemayel of Lebanon evincing hope in the future - it all seemed familiar. There on the front pages yesterday were the lists of dead and wounded

in the big Beirut hospitals. Yet not one paper bothered to ask how it had started, as if a bout of shelling was a natural disaster.

In retrospect, a few details have emerged. A shell hit the Shia Muslim, Bourj el-Barajneh suburb at about midday on Sunday. No one knows who fired it, but one man died and a few minutes later motorists near the airport saw armed men firing a rocket launcher not far from the mosque on the airport highway. The missiles killed two Christians in Jdeideh. With the earlier kidnapping of 65 Christians on the same airport road, it was enough to crack Syria's latest security proposals.

While Mr Abdul-Halim Khaddam, the Syrian Vice-

President, was urgently on the telephone to Mr Gemayel, however, the Syrians were far more concerned yesterday with the renewed conflict in the northern Lebanese city of Tripoli.

In the past week, there have been a number of serious, but unreported, attacks in the area on Syrian intelligence agents, and foreigners living in the city believe that the Syrians may soon vent their anger on the Sunni Muslim "Tawheed" militia.

There is already considerable tension in the city after the slaughter of a wounded Sunni militiaman as he lay in the emergency ward of the Islamic Hospital.

Mr Raul Daza, a Philippines opposition leader, greeting well-wishers when he arrived back in Manila yesterday after 12 years of self-imposed exile in the United States (AP reports).

Mr Daza, a former Congressman aged 50, called on all Filipinos to join against "an unyielding and unrepentant dictatorship and the elite it has represented and nurtured", referring to the 20-year rule of President Marcos.

There was no attempt by the authorities to arrest Mr Daza, who faces subversion, arson and homicide charges in connection with bombings and fires in Manila in the late 1970s.

"I am very happy to be home again with loved ones," he said.

Mr Daza arrived at the same airport where the opposition leader, Benigno Aquino, was assassinated two years ago.

Rebel dies trying to bomb Chile police

Santiago (Reuters) - A guerrilla was believed to have been killed by his own bomb yesterday outside the museum of Chile's paramilitary police, who are at the centre of a political scandal which has sparked anti-government protests, police sources said.

Another suspected rebel and a policeman were wounded in a gunfight after the bomb exploded. Police backed by helicopters mounted a search for the wounded rebel and two suspects were arrested.

A court ruling last week implicating 14 policemen in the murders in March of three communists forced the resignation of the police chief.

A police communiqué on

Defeat lets mayor, 12, keep his job

Washington - Brian Zimmerman, the 12-year-old unofficial mayor of the farming community of Crabb, Texas, has failed to make his small town a fully-fledged city by 495 to 30 votes. But his defeat means he will keep his job (Mohsin Ali writes).

The youth was elected nearly two years ago. He wanted Crabb and the sub-division of Tara to be incorporated and given city status, thus preventing eventual annexation by Houston near by.

Had he won on Saturday he could not have stood for mayor of the new city because Texas law requires municipal officers to be at least 18.

Three years for 'refusenik'

By Rodney Cowton

A Soviet "refusenik" has been sentenced to three years in a labour camp after the KGB intercepted letters he had sent to the West.

According to the Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry in London Dr Rauld Zelichenok, aged 48, an electronics engineer,

went on trial in Leningrad on Wednesday and was sentenced at the end of last week.

The Women's Campaign for Soviet Jewry said the case was the first in which the KGB had admitted interfering with the mail of refuseniks. It also said his wife was almost blind.

Israeli tribunal rejects terror link

From David Bernstein Jerusalem

An Israeli military tribunal has recommended that the authorities reconsider plans to expel Mr Khali Ali Ziyad, a Jerusalem bookseller accused of being an al-Fatah leader, after finding that "nothing links him directly to terrorist attacks".

The decision, and the fact that the tribunal took the unusual step of making its recommendation public, is an

obstruction to the military authorities' plan to deport Mr Abu Ziyad.

His lawyer, Mr Amnon Zihroni, said that, with the recommendation having been made public, the authorities will probably have to drop the deportation order.

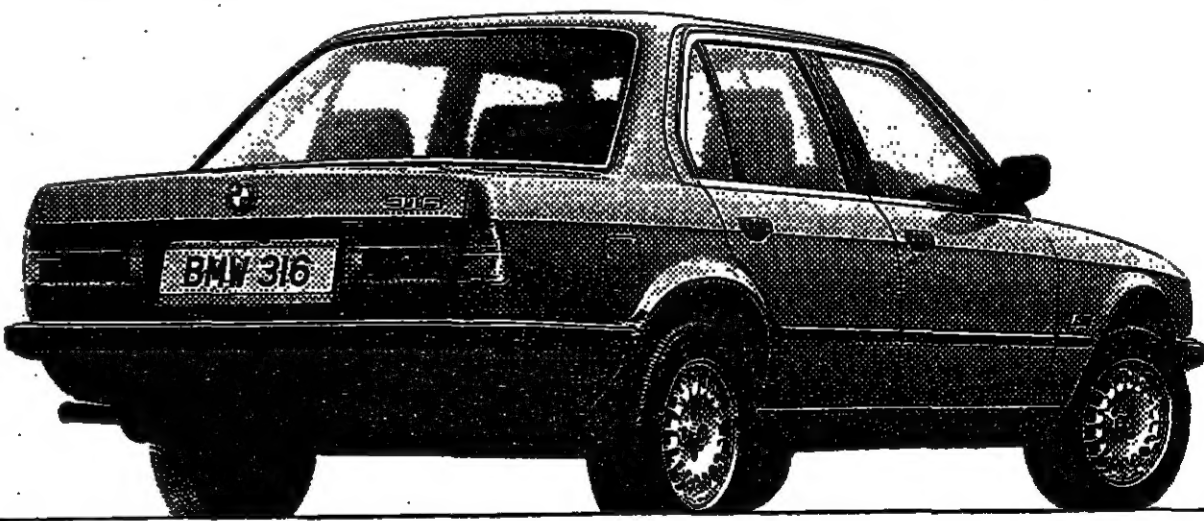
He is also confident that the tribunal decision will influence the outcome of a Supreme Court appeal against the order.

day, after the Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, responds to a court order served on him on Sunday telling him to show why Mr Abu Ziyad should be deported.

With Mr Abu Ziyad's petition, the court will also hear petitions submitted by 12 Palestinians released in the recent prisoner exchange whom the authorities wish to deport because they do not have West Bank resident permits.



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Angry French MPs return from holiday to debate New Caledonia law

From Susan MacDonald
Paris

About 160 deputies attended the National Assembly here yesterday having been recalled from their holidays by President Mitterrand to debate the amended law on New Caledonia.

The deputies, some looking bronzed, are unhappy about being summoned after only two weeks on holiday. They were already in an extended session of Parliament in July when the law on the future of New Caledonia was given its final reading and adopted.

At the end of last week, however, the Constitutional Council, which has the final say on legislation, objected to a clause in the new law, thereby upsetting the Government's carefully planned scheduling of New Caledonia, including regional elections programmed for September.

The Government's controversial programme on the future of New Caledonia calls for the dissolution of the Territorial Assembly and the installation of an indirectly elected Territorial Congress.

Mr Edgard Pisani, Minister in Charge of New Caledonia, has openly talked of the territory progressing to independence, while the centre-right opposition has maintained that the majority of New Caledonians wish to remain French.

The part of the law which



Mr McTaggart yesterday at Greenpeace Paris HQ.

gave offence to the Constitutional Council was the distribution of councillors for the regional elections in relation to the number of people they will represent in the four regions to be created. As the law stood councillors elected in the Noumea region represented double the number of voters of those elected in the outlying regions. This, says the opposition, favours pro-independence people who live mainly in outlying districts.

The Government presented an amendment yesterday which upped the number of councillors to be elected in the Noumea region from 18 to 21. This, it is hoped, will satisfy the Opposition and the Senate, which then has to approve the

amended part of the law. Former President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing has already declared this method of amending the law unconstitutional, saying that it should first have the approval of the New Caledonia Assembly.

The Government needs to get this controversial law through quickly before it runs into the autumn when it could become an important feature in the campaign for the general elections next March. This can be judged by the fact that it has taken the very unusual step of recalling Parliament in August.

Two years ago, when President Mitterrand decided to send troops into Chad, he decided it all without feeling the need to recall Parliament. Faced with the Opposition already crowding that it has indefinitely postponed the proposed changes in New Caledonia, the President has organized a hasty recall.

Mr David McTaggart, chairman of Greenpeace International, said yesterday that President Mitterrand has agreed to meet him for discussions on the bombing in New Zealand last month of the Greenpeace ship, Rainbow Warrior (AP and AFP report).

Mr McTaggart, speaking at a press conference here, claimed that the French military had a long-standing hostility to Greenpeace.

Leading article, page 11

Girl dies as unrest erupts in Pretoria

From Ray Kennedy
Johannesburg

An uneasy calm returned yesterday to Durban's devastated Indian and black townships after five days of arson and pillage, but renewed violence erupted in the Pretoria area.

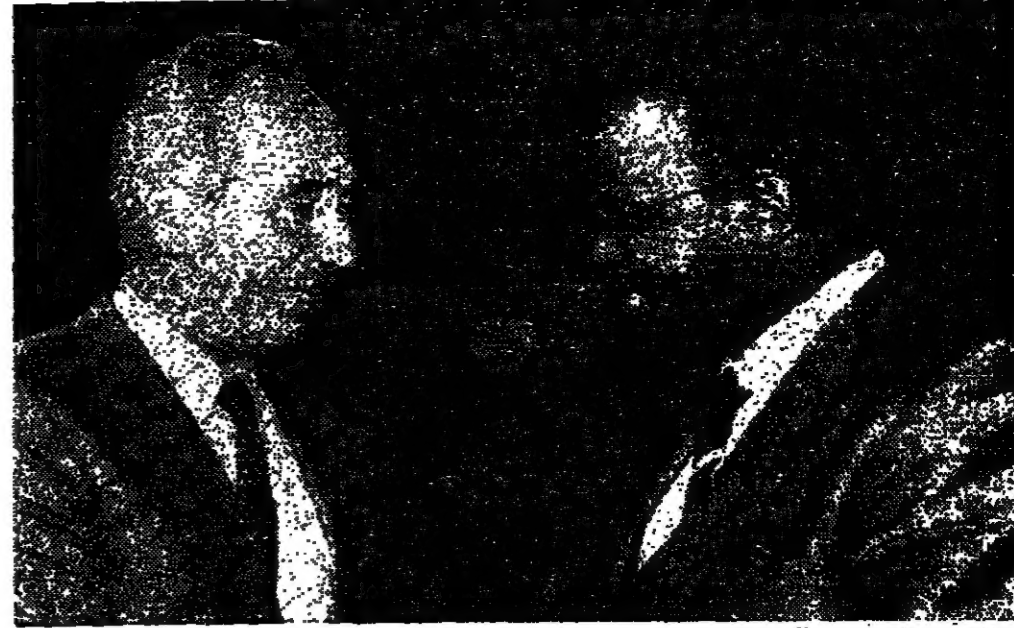
At least two people were killed in Mamelodi township. One, a 12-year-old girl, was shot by police. Troop carriers smashed through barriers of rubbish bins, rocks and oil drums erected by youths trying to enforce a stayaway from work. As soon as the vehicles moved on the barricades were thrown up again.

Trouble broke out in the township at the weekend after the funeral of a man residents claim was beaten to death by migrant workers living in bachelor hostels. Township youths attacked a hostel and set one man ablaze with petrol.

Police reported yesterday that the homes of councillors and policemen in Mamelodi and Atteridgeville township near by had been attacked and set alight.

In a further diplomatic rebuff to South Africa, Australia has announced it will close its trade mission in Johannesburg.

In another development, the trial on high treason charges of 16 anti-apartheid activists re-



Mr Peres with Chief Buthelezi in Jerusalem yesterday.

Israel promises tougher stance on apartheid

Jerusalem (Reuter) - Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, promised that Israel would take a tougher stance against apartheid in South Africa after a meeting with Chief Buthelezi, the Zulu leader, who arrived yesterday for a 10-day visit.

The claim that the United Democratic Front was being used by a "revolutionary alliance" was a vital aspect of the state's case. "I might be left with a situation to order the state to supply further particulars on that aspect," the judge said.

Meanwhile, South African rugby fans, denied a tour by the New Zealand All Blacks, got a consolation prize yesterday when the Welsh Crawshays XV arrived in Johannesburg.

The side will open its six-match tour tomorrow in Cape Town.

condemned South Africa's declaration of a state of emergency, has trade and military links with Pretoria.

Leftists and moderates, among them the former Foreign Minister, Mr Abba Eban, have pressed the Israeli Government to speak out more forcefully against apartheid. State radio said Mr Peres planned to liaise with foreign governments on efforts to fight apartheid.

Chief Buthelezi said: "Israel should use her diplomatic clout as much as possible to influence South Africa to move toward a negotiated future."

Israel, one of the few Western countries not to have

Thatcher starts Salzburg holiday

Salzburg, Austria (Reuter) - Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, slipped quietly into this Alpine city yesterday for a secluded holiday with her husband. She was met by the Salzburg provincial governor, Herr Wilfried Haslauer, when she arrived by jet from RAF Northolt.

As last year, the Thatchers were staying with Britain's honorary consul in Salzburg, Mrs Mathias Kaindl, at his hunting lodge near Werfen, about 25 miles south of Salzburg. The Prime Minister is due to attend several performances at the Salzburg music festival.

Polish priests sentenced

Warsaw (AP) - A Polish appeals court upheld the convictions of two Roman Catholic priests for leading a student protest against the removal of crucifixes from classrooms, but threw out a one-year prison sentence against one of them, the PAP news agency reported.

The provincial court in Kielce suspended the one-year prison term on the Rev Marek Labuda, putting him on three years' probation and fining him 100,000 zlotys (about £460). A 10-month suspended sentence on the Rev Andrzej Wiczynski was upheld and he was ordered to pay a 60,000 zloty fine.

Appeaser gibe at Reagan

From Christopher Thomas
Washington

Mayor Edward Koch of New York yesterday likened President Reagan's attitude towards South Africa to America's stance towards Nazi Germany in 1933.

Even by the savage oratorical standards of Mr Koch it was a particularly stinging condemnation, symptomatic of a deepening bitterness in the rhetoric and the passions surrounding the beleaguered policy of "constructive engagement".

Leading politicians, actors, writers and civil rights campaigners marched peacefully through Washington yesterday, from the Washington monument to the State Department, bearing 50 coffins to represent the 600 blacks who have died in 11 months of violence in South Africa.

They called it the National Day of Mourning for Black South Africans. After nine incredible months of campaigning, the previously unknown Free South Africa Movement has dragged the apartheid issue into the international arena, initially by the simple means of non-stop illegal protests outside the South African Embassy. It is now tantalisingly close to its primary goal - a congressional vote to impose sanctions on Pretoria.

There were more arrests outside the embassy yesterday, as there will be tomorrow and everyday for the foreseeable future. Since November, 3,000 people have been arrested.

Mayor Koch said New York City had begun a process of withdrawing funds from South Africa. "We will not trade with any bank or any company that sells or provides money to the South African Government. What we are seeing now in South Africa is what our compatriots saw in Germany in 1933 - the attitude of 'this is an internal matter that we cannot do anything about'."

Mayor Koch: A parallel with Germany in 1933.

Acid leak

Belgrade (AP) - About 30 tons of highly toxic acid with strong bleaching qualities leaked from a paper plant's storage tank into the Lim river at Ivangrad and the public has been warned to avoid the water, the Novosti newspaper reported.

Witness dies

Lisbon (AP) - A key prosecution witness, Jose Rosas Barradas, shot on July 19 three days before the trial of 73 suspected left-wing urban guerrillas, has died of his wounds. Barradas, aged 34, an alleged member of the April 25 Popular Forces, was hit seven times in an ambush outside his home.

Macao scandal

Macao (Reuter) - A senior Portuguese official in Macao, Gastao Humberto de Barros, was jailed for five and a half years and 88 others received lesser sentences in a corruption trial here. The case involved the issuing of fake documents to obtain Portuguese passports.

Hit team alert

Amsterdam (AP) - Former Surinamese President Henk Chin A Sen, a prominent opponent of the military regime in the former Dutch colony, has been placed under police protection after reports that a hit team was on its way to the Netherlands to assassinate him.

Dissidents freed

Vienna - Three Czechoslovak dissidents arrested in Prague at the weekend have been released, according to reports reaching here. Vaclav Havel, Ladislav Lis and Jiri Dienstbier were interrogated after police found a Charter 77 document in the home of Mr Dienstbier.

Bomb victim

Copenhagen - A 27-year-old Algerian has died of acute burns received when a bomb exploded in an airline office here on July 22. Twenty-six other people were injured in a day of terrorist bomb attacks in the Danish capital.

Arson attempt

Frankfurt (AP) - Arsonists loaded fuel-soaked blankets and pillows into two railway carriages used by the US Army for journeys to West Berlin but a faulty igniting device prevented any fire, police said here.

Bus disaster

Bangkok (AP) - At least 17 passengers were killed and more than 20 injured when a bus plunged into a 155ft ravine in northern Thailand.

Axe revenge

Tilburg, Netherlands (AP) - Apparently enraged over his neighbour's habit of feeding his 21 cats at 2am, a man here took his revenge by smashing up the cat-owner's house with a pickaxe.

Australians may penalize prostitutes over Aids

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne

The New South Wales State Government has foreshadowed legislation to punish prostitutes who knowingly transmit Aids (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

At the same time, a spokesman for what claims to be the world's first private blood bank said it expected the rich and famous from all over the world to take advantage of Australia's lead in providing personal blood storage.

The bank in Sydney intends to operate throughout Australia within a year before going international. The possibility of legislating to penalize prostitutes was raised at the weekend by Mr Neville Wran, the New South Wales Premier, when he said Aids might become a reportable disease like syphilis and gonorrhoea.

It was confirmed on Friday that a man had caught Aids from a woman prostitute, the first such case reported.

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THE ARTS



The agreeable new acquaintance of the exiled Henri-Pierre Danloux in *Lady Ann Scott* (left); another who would repay more detailed study, John Duncan in *Tristan and Isolde* as part of the Dublin connection; and Matisse himself before the subsequent decline in *Interieur jaune et bleu*

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL - Galleries: John Russell Taylor

The Auld Alliance just a shade off kilter

Apart from the basic practicalities, like bringing in visitors and making money for the host-city, international festivals exist primarily to bring nations together and find viable connections between them. Edinburgh this year examines two such connections: that with France but also, interestingly if rather improbably, that between Edinburgh and Dublin.

The French connection comes, of course, from the famous Auld Alliance - though, as one disgruntled Scot remarked to me, "Every Scottish schoolchild knows about the Auld Alliance, but find me the Frenchman who knows or cares anything about it". Actually, that is not quite fair, historically at least: think of the enormous influence on French Romanticism of Sir Walter Scott, and, before that, of Ossian on the Neo-Classicalists and proto-Romantics. (Ironically, 1974's big *Ossian* exhibition was seen in Hamburg and Paris, but never in Edinburgh, where the whole thing started.) But, this time round, what France has derived from Scotland remains largely unexplored; all the shows seem to hint at traffic exclusively the other way - Scotland importing French objects, French values and even the occasional Frenchman. If this makes Edinburgh more than usual a home-from-home for French visitors, the extent and variety of the debts must prove revelatory to the majority of locals.

Even a bit of strategic rearrangement can do the trick. The National Galleries have all weighed in, with four shows united by a single catalogue. The National Gallery of Scotland itself has its major holdings in French art from 1500 to 1900, which we knew anyway to be stunning, gathered together to emphasize the role of Scottish collectors, and the effect is reinforced by a selection of superb

Painting in France 1500-1900/French Draughtsmen

National Gallery of Scotland

Ecole de Paris: Art in Paris 1900-1960/S. J. Peplow

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

A French Painter in Exile: Henri-Pierre Danloux

Scottish National Portrait Gallery

French Connections

Royal Scottish Museum

A Breath of Fresh Air/American Drawings and Watercolors in the Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute/The Art of Costa Rica

City of Edinburgh Art Centre

French Impressions

Bourne Fine Art

Colour Since Matisse

Royal Scottish Academy

Edinburgh-Dublin 1885-1985

Edinburgh College of Art

French drawings from the collection. The show which takes up the story from 1900 at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art is a real eye-opener, however: surely few comparable collections can have enjoyed

such an enlightened buying policy in the last few years, right up to the most recent acquisition, one of the Robert Delaunay footballer paintings (unfortunately inspired by a Welsh rather than a Scottish team,

but obviously one cannot have everything).

And, at the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, there is a small but interesting exhibition devoted to Henri-Pierre Danloux (1753-1809), an exile from the French Revolution who took up residence in London, swallowed his ambitions to be an historical painter and instead concentrated on portraits (with many an acid comment on lack of discrimination in the English, who preferred a culpably loose style of brushwork), painting a number of prominent Scots during at least one visit north of the Border. It is agreeable to make his acquaintance, and it would surely be illuminating to know more of his diaries. All these shows run until September 22.

Even more impressive, in its different way, is the show called *French Connections* at the Royal Scottish Museum until February 4. This, beautifully and imaginatively displayed, picks, seemingly almost at random, from the treasures already in the museum's collection and those to hand in the country houses of Scotland (depleted not one jot, it would seem, by the demands of the forthcoming giant show of country-house treasures in Washington), as well as bringing in a number of loans from abroad, two at least of the first importance.

These are the enormous David portrait of Napoleon from Washington, which is here because it was actually commissioned by the Tenth Duke of Hamilton and delivered in the middle of the Napoleonic Wars; and the half of the silver-gilt tea service made for Napoleon, and subsequently acquired by the same Tenth Duke, which is now in the Louvre. The other half is in the Royal Scottish Museum - why and how is too complicated a story to go into - and this is the first time it has all been seen together at least since

1919. Two other important complete sets are also shown in their entirety: the travelling service of the Princess Pauline Borghese and the Lennoxlove toilet service, made in Paris for the Duchess of Richmond and Lennox in 1661-1677. But one still cannot but be amazed at the wonders just lying to hand in Scotland, many of them apparently still awaiting adequate appraisal and documentation.

The theme is continued in one of three shows at the City Art Centre until September 21 (the others are a selection of pre-Columbian Costa Rican ceramics from the Arthur M. Sackler Collections, and some 50 wonderful *American Drawings and Watercolors* from the Museum of Art, Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh). From the city's own collections has been put together *A Breath of French Air*, a gathering of works by French artists who worked in France or were influenced somehow by French ideas. The notion is concentrated further in the show at Bourne Fine Art, Dundas Street, until August 30, called *French Impressions*. The City Art Centre show runs from the 1730s to the 1970s; the Bourne show from Arthur Melville to Anne Redpath; both, almost inevitably, include an artist who is at the moment getting his own ambitious retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art (until September 8), S. J. Peplow, leading figure among the Scottish Colourists.

In fact, he is seen to rather better advantage in the ones and twos to be found elsewhere, for with more than 130 paintings plus some 70 drawings the show is dangerously over-extended, grouping together almost identical still-lives and landscapes until one gets a quite unfair but overriding sense of repetition and formula. Unfair to Peplow, most of whose light-filled works, taken one

by one, it would be a pleasure to own; he is hardly a major figure, even compared with, say, his contemporary J. D. Fergusson, but he is certainly a lot better than this show would lead one to believe.

The French themselves (no apparent Scottish connections) are to be seen at the Royal Scottish Academy until September 21 in *Colour Since Matisse*, a show which should be sheer delight but somehow fails, partly because of the disastrous decline in French painting since the 1950s which it (unwittingly?) chronicles, and partly because of the general gloom of the surroundings. Still, Lapique, since Pop Art's redemption of vulgarity for serious painting, looks unexpectedly good, so that is some little thing gained.

Meanwhile, on the other side of town, other exhibition organizers are seeing the Scottish artistic experience in a rather different perspective. At Edinburgh College of Art there is, until August 31, *Edinburgh-Dublin 1885-1985*, which is claimed to be the largest exhibition in the history of the festival. In fact it is 14 separate, but related, exhibitions under the same roof, taking in most aspects of the cultural life of the two capitals in the last hundred years, with a particular interest in the areas where they run parallel or interconnect. Some of the similarities are self-evident: both are capitals of small countries which have managed not to become metropolitan; both have some (at least national) Celtic heritage; both owe many of their architectural treasures to eighteenth-century classicism; both had a big cultural revival towards the end of the nineteenth century; both are strong today on crafts and the centres of thriving, independent schools of painting.

The selection of subjects for detailed exploration is rather erratic.

It is unfortunate, for instance, that the, in general, very lively and creative tapestry work of the college's own students since 1963 is juxtaposed with the almost entirely reproductive tapestries of the Edinburgh Tapestry Company, whose main claim to our attention is the rather perverse one of their virtuosity in evoking paintings or gouaches brush-stroke by brush-stroke in stitchery. Hugh MacDiarmid is a good choice for a show all to himself, because of the many ways in which he formed a bridge between Scotland and Ireland. In the show of contemporary Irish and Scottish painting the Scottish is mostly the work of familiar hands, though none the worse for that, and the Irish, with a couple of honourable exceptions, lags far behind.

The real sensations of the exhibition are the twin shows of Arts and Crafts in Edinburgh and Dublin between 1880 and 1930. Both, devised respectively by Elizabeth S. Cumming and Nicola Gordon Bowe, are exquisitely arranged and venture into really unfamiliar territory, for both cities are far less advanced than Glasgow in the study of their own *in de velle* treasures. Most of the Irish works are fairly small-scale, and there is at least one important discovery, the glass-worker and illustrator Wilhelm Geddes. Edinburgh goes in more for sizeable pieces of furniture and large decorative schemes; from the examples of his work on display, it looks as though the Symbolist painter John Duncan in particular would repay much more detailed study. With any luck, now the way has been opened both cities will pursue their Arts-and-Crafts heritage while there are still some veterans around to tell the tale. Until they do, these shows are an invaluable foretaste, not to be missed by anyone even slightly interested.

Television Homely melodrama

My Brother Jonathan (BBC 2) is set in 1908, and as a result everyone is on his or her best behaviour. Even in a hospital emergency ward, a black-coated servant approaches the doctor with deference: "Casualty just come in, sir. Motor accident. Dead." And it turns out that he is the doctor's father. Dead, dead and I never called him mother... or words to that effect. This first instalment was essentially melodrama transferred to the small screen - where, funnily enough, it seems quite at home and where the marked employment of period detail is a safe substitute for inventiveness in any other department.

It seemed to be another familiar chapter in the leather-bound production of BBC, carefully directed, the sombre interiors matched only by the lavish use of outdoor locations. The only problem with such revivals is that they manage to make the period itself seem faintly ridiculous and even, on occasions, slightly disgusting. And why, is it that the participants always have to play tennis?

Soft and Hard (Channel 4) was apparently a "world premiere", inaugurating Jean-Luc Godard's latest reflections on the cinematic image. It was described as a "Soft Talk Between Two Friends on a Hard Subject", and it consisted of a series of clichés of respectable Gallic provenance and half-articulated generalizations.

William Archer once described melodrama as "tragedy without logic", and this generally distraught and at the same time incompetent dialogue suggested that Godard was moving towards the same interestingly romantic condition. There were even such phrases as "The despair of art" and "I was their souls which were mad" - this harassed artist and his problems might certainly have come out of early Victorian melodrama, if not perhaps anything more recent, and it is a curious aspect of "modernism" that its practitioners become more self-conscious in their formal investigations only to revert to a sentimental crudeness of theme.

Peter Ackroyd

Music in London Oracular enterprise

Albany Brass
ICA

The Albany Brass Ensemble's pre-eminence in the field of commissioning and performing new brass quintets was confirmed by this adventurous programme in the MusICA series. None of the four works here, three of them receiving premieres, offered the sort of brass music one is ever likely to hear wafting from a park bandstand; but they had their entertaining moments nevertheless.

Stephen Reeve's new *L'Oracle de Delphes*, for instance, began with the players - each given his own coloured spotlight - squatting cross-legged on the floor (no mean feat for a tuba player) breathing heavily into their instruments in an increasingly excited manner. This, one need hardly say, was representative of a priestess at Delphi becoming "infused with the fumes of prophecy".

The players then seated themselves conventionally and the oracle, famous for its unhelpful pronouncements, spoke. This Reeve interpreted in a series of appropriately baffling rhetorical gestures. Trumpets suddenly busked casually up and down the harmonic series; tunes of chant-like simplicity emerged from a

mist of vocalization and, having been articulated "normally", were initiated by the players singing down their instruments. The results were bizarre but never dull.

The other pieces could not match this excitement, though John Howard's *Sonata* ended almost as quixotically: a desultory series of cluster harmonies (taking the tuba player, James Gourley, into a virtuosic high register) followed by a fragmentary coda of clipped, muted chords, like a splattered signature. What made this second movement more odd was that it seemed unrelated to Howard's first, a well-argued allegro in which a terse, Bartók-like fanfare ostinato became the basis of a ferocious ostinato climax - very fast, written very idiomatically for brass instruments.

The instruments were enterprisingly employed, too, in Vic Hoyland's short Brass Quintet where flutter-tonguing and other unusual embouchure tricks were combined cannily to uncanny effect. A forceful glissando, though, is surely too crude a device to bear so much repetition. Also receiving its premiere, Nicholas Sackman's *Time-Piece* offered the evening's most accessible sounds, especially in the whirling clockwork momentum and strictly clashing chimes of its fast sections.

Richard Morrison

Opening concert: Paul Griffiths Cascades of miniature syncopations

Orchestre National
de France/Dutoit
Usher Hall/ Radio 3

Edinburgh may appear most dimly and unappetizingly herself under the present ceaseless rain, but indoors the music is all of France. On Sunday the opening concert of the Festival was handed over to the Orchestre National, and the following two nights are theirs too, playing what was very much the core French repertoire of a generation ago: *La Mer*, some Berlioz, much Ravel, the obvious works of Schmitt and Roussel. On the evidence of this first acquaintance, though, one should not expect obvious performances, for a reason that itself appears with hindsight rather obvious.

Much of our experience of this music comes from recordings made by English-American, German or Swiss but not French orchestras; an encounter with the real thing can therefore be disconcerting. One wonders how much tradition lies behind these curious sounds; one wonders to what extent

Debussy and Ravel were imagining such fat horns and clarinets, so wobbly, naive and prominent a solo trumpet, so barking a set of timpani. Above all, one wonders about an approach to rhythm that seems quite peculiarly French.

Everybody in the orchestra is in agreement about barlines, more or less, but within that framework there is extraordinary scope for individuals and groups to go their own ways, which quite often produces a cascade of miniature syncopations. One may feel the shadow of Duke Ellington pass across the orchestra, or it may seem that a solo instrument, perhaps the cor anglais, has been taken up by an oriental improviser. When so much orchestral playing these days tends towards the mechanical, there is something to be said for this more animal approach. Certainly it generates richness of texture and vividness of imagery. But it must make things difficult for the person who has to try to control proceedings: no wonder the greatest French conductor of the present day rose from among the ranks of composers.



Charles Dutoit: metronomic beat and largeness of gesture

Charles Dutoit dealt with the problem by means of an emphatically metronomic beat which at least kept everyone together in the medium term.

and by a largeness of gesture that could be guaranteed to gain support from most of the orchestra at any one time. Inevitably this made for a certain crudity: his recording of *Daphnis et Chloé*, with his own Montreal orchestra, is very much more a vindication of Ravel than was this performance, which had much of the gushing film score about it. Moments such as the appearance of Pan were strongly coloured, but the daybreak sequence depends on a much tighter tessellation of its flutterings and spangles - or so one has always supposed.

There were similar problems in *La Mer*, which oddly lacked just those qualities normally regarded as essentially French: subtlety, elegance, precision. The second movement managed to be both slipshod and ebullient, and the finale banged its way to a hugely unDebussian conclusion - though again perhaps our expectations are misguided. There was less room for disagreement about Debussy's *Marche céleste*, very minor but charmingly included to honour this Franco-Scottish festival.

Rostropovich Festival

the composer had been working during his last two years. Matthews, whose instrumentation was encouraged by Britten, also lays the piece to rest with a 15-bar coda of both discretion and dignity.

Sitwell, who had felt deeply indebted to Britten for the "glory" he had given her *Canticle of the Rose* in his *Still Falls the Rain*, dedicated the verses to him. *Praise We Great Men*, originally planned for Rostropovich's 1977 Washington concert season, could hardly be more different from *Canticle 3*, or indeed from the valdior *Phaedra* and Third String Quartet. Think more of the comparatively extrovert *Welcome Ode* or even of the *Spring Symphony*. A celebratory litany, its choral writing is boldly hewn, and Matthews's use of high woodwind, glockenspiel,

vibraphone, harp and piano to spangle its majesty is shrewd and sharp.

The four soloists (not young unknowns as Britten wanted, but Heather Harper, Marie McLaughlin, Philip Langridge and Richard Jackson) amass tension in their darting invocations of Sitwell's "gods of sound". Timpani and lower strings provide an intensifying heartbeat, until three horns herald the first tenor solo, over the same sustained string C major pedal which, after the mezzo-soprano, provides fade-out.

Any doubts as to the value of performing the fragment were dashed over both by the concentration of its energy and the commitment of its performance by the Philharmonia Orchestra and Chorus under Rostropovich. Rostropovich is,

of course, the bridge between Britten and Shostakovich. Shostakovich, who was also to have had a work played in that 1977 concert, was, in a powerful coup of programming, represented by a performance of his Fifth Symphony, properly terrifying in its knife-edge risks and relentlessly strident physicality.

Hilary Finch

Lords of the New Church

Hammersmith Palais

Nearly ten years after the punk rock "revolution", the genre is slipping into a quiet middle age. In common with heavy metal, punk is now largely ignored by the media, which considers it to be a relic that has ceased to add anything to the advancement of popular music forms; yet it still commands a large and devoted following at grass-roots level.

The Lords of the New Church are a band who illustrate well the movement's dilemma in the Eighties. As the musicians struck familiar chords and poses in front of the media, which considers it to be a relic that has ceased to add anything to the advancement of popular music forms; yet it still commands a large and devoted following at grass-roots level.

In this regard Brian James, once the guitarist with Chelsea and the Damned, enjoying the greatest success, played chunky Chuck Berry-derived riffs with acumen. Siv Bator (former

Rock

Hammersmith Palais

Dead Boys), one of those undernourished-looking vocalists who somehow manage to sprawl over thin air, growled with petulant menace, but carried some good tunes, notably "Method to My Madness" and "Open Your Eyes". Dave Trugunna (former Sham 69) played adequate bass, though Nick Turner (former Barracudas drummer) had an irritating inability to stick to the tempo of the songs, many of which revved or dragged at different points.

For all their efforts though, the Lords of the New Church have failed to develop a degree of musicality sufficient to replace the initial bludgeoning fury of punk's early exponents. Despite some good touches and a cameo appearance by Mike Monroe from Hanoi Rocks, playing saxophone and harmonica, the performance lacked fire. They are now in a more sophisticated market-place, where the "bad boys" image, and the knocking over of one or two microphone stands, is no longer cause for excitement. They have some way to go before meeting the new challenges.

David Sinclair

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SPECTRUM

Fear and separation haunted wartime romances and provided a powerful incentive to snatch love at every opportunity

Death, dark days and sexual dalliance



WOMEN AND WAR In the second of a three-part series John Costello tells how the Second World War caused a collapse in morals in Britain and led to an increase in promiscuity

The sexual undercurrents stirred by the First World War prompted Sigmund Freud to write in his 1917 analysis, *Reflections on War and Death*, that the connection between violence and eroticism was the collective tendency of a society at war to throw off the repressions which civilization had imposed on family life.

"War aphrodisia", as it has been called, accentuates the disruptive physical impact of war on family life and the loosening of wartime restraints acts as an incentive to extra-marital promiscuity and the unshackling of unsatisfactory marriage bonds.

Historically, it was a phenomenon confined to areas adjacent to the fighting; but the mobilization of entire populations necessary to fight world wars like the Second World War became for Britain spreads the hedonistic impulse.

The First World War, with its partial mobilization of women, had

the women who joined the armed forces. ATS recruits, for instance, found themselves exposed to sex education lectures - known euphemistically as social hygiene lectures - that were embarrassing and frequently delivered by unsympathetic army doctors.

The doctors were also responsible for the regular monthly inspections which, according to one ATS recruit, did more to brighten than inform: "Most of us had never heard of VD. Nor did we know what it was. Great moral emphasis was laid on not having affairs with men, which sort of filtered through, although nobody paid much attention."

Women who joined the services quickly learnt to ignore, or deal with, the frequent sexual overtures. One 16-year-old girl, who added 18 months to her age to qualify for the WAAF, recalls that several younger girls armed themselves with hampers, which they hid in the laps of their uniforms whenever they went to the camp cinema.

"There was one occasion when I had to use mine. The lights came on when the airman screamed and clutched his bottom. Everyone stared at me. After that I was known as the pin-up girl."

Since love and war represent the extremes of human experience it is no surprise, however, to find that a total war has profound emotional and sexual consequences for women as well as men, and that the urgency and excitement of the time soon erodes moral restraints.

The frank recollections of an ATS corporal reveal that wartime sexual "bravado" in the Army was by no means restricted to men's barracks-rooms: "While women were submissive in mixed company and accepted the role men expected them to play, in our barracks we were something completely different."

"Men were an alien element, yet everything that we women desired. Getting enough sex was all part of the dare that the war represented for us. It allowed us to express our liberty and rebelliousness from the male-set archetypes of loving wife and mother that they had always tried to tie to us."

"This naturally brought women together and, apart from the prim or religious ones, it enabled women to talk about men."

The basic causes of the decline in



A sad farewell between an American air force sergeant and his girlfriend, a member of the WAAF. Right, a young Vera Lynn, the Forces' sweetheart. Below, a wartime VD poster

women's morals were fear and loneliness, both in the case of women in the armed services and wives separated from their husbands.

Death and separation were the twin spectres that haunted wartime love affairs and provided a powerful incentive for couples to snatch at every opportunity for love. Even the most fleeting wartime affair took on a special intensity, because of the shared apprehension that it might be each partner's last chance to discover affection in sexual solace.

The sadness of frequent partings was intensified by the uncertainty of whether the partners would survive to meet again. No one appreciated this better than a girl in the WAAF who dated pilots fighting in the Battle of Britain: "It was here today and gone tomorrow, so I did not build up any lasting relationships."

Nor was the old dual standard of feminine fidelity acceptable to many of the wives left at home when their

husbands were called-up, and a large number of them attributed their wartime immorality to air raids. Statistically, the chances of survival were worse for non-combatants. Sixty thousand civilians perished in the Blitz in the winter of 1941, a figure that far exceeded the death rate in the combined armed forces during the same period.

One woman, newly married at the time, explained: "Personal relationships were formed between men and women out of sheer loneliness and the need to be loved. I lived a mile away from the heavily-bombed city of Newcastle, so I think I can say I was in the front line."

Separation also left wives in constant dread of news that their husbands had been killed in action. This added a heavy load to the burden of loneliness of wartime women. "Separation was intolerable for some wives and sweethearts," was one British wife's rationaliza-

tion of the epidemic of wartime adultery.

The decline in women's morals was reflected in the folk music of the wartime years. By 1940, Vera Lynn was the nation's most popular vocalist and, as one writer later put it, appeared to "have history working for her as an agent".

Many of her hits, like *Years*, gave expression to a pledge of constancy for separated couples "till the stars lose their glory". After two years of war, however, devotion "to the end of life's story" had to come to terms with the snatched love affairs that had become, by then, the staple reality of wartime romance.

The casual nature of sex is reflected in the social statistics of the war years. Of the 5.3 million infants delivered between 1939 and 1945, more than a third were illegitimate - and this wartime phenomenon was not confined to any one section of society. The babies born out of wedlock belonged to every group

of mother, one social researcher concluded.

Nor was the highest recorded rate of illegitimate births among teenage girls, as might have been expected. Records indicate that women between 20 and 30 gave birth to nearly double the pre-war number of illegitimate children.

In all, illegitimate births increased from an annual pre-war average of 5.5 per 1,000 over the six wartime years to a 1945 peak of 18.1 per 1,000.

The unofficial illegitimacy figure is undoubtedly higher than the official one. Children born to married women in Britain were regarded as legitimate unless registered otherwise, and therefore children fathered by someone other than the husband were often not declared illegitimate.

That many British women married to absent servicemen did bear children is confirmed by the detailed investigation conducted by some of the larger municipal authorities. The records kept by Birmingham, for example, indicated that almost a third of all confessed illegitimate births were to married women and that the pre-war rate had trebled by 1945.

The wartime rise in illegitimacy put pressure on the public welfare authorities to assume the burden of a social problem that wartime conditions had greatly accelerated.

Historically, the unmarried mother had been made an object of disgrace, to be pilloried in the market place or forced to stand at the church door on Sundays, shrouded in a white sheet. In the Second World War, however, the unmarried mother became a candidate for social welfare rather than a target for moral outrage.

Before the war, an unmarried mother cast out by strait-laced parents would probably turn to a religious charity, making the Church, as one authority aptly put it, "the main driving force in tackling the problem of illegitimacy and the greatest obstacle in the way of its solution".

This was to change, however, as the number of unmarried mothers outstripped the resources of voluntary organizations like the Salvation Army.

The Government groped towards a solution that would be acceptable to conservative religious opinion, already alarmed by what it perceived as a national moral decline. By 1945, guidelines had been set by the Ministry of Health and funding was being made available to local authorities and the voluntary societies for the provision of maternity homes and services.

The most significant change was that unmarried mothers were allowed to collect minimal child support and maternity grants, which assisted the increasing number of

women who were determined to raise their infants themselves rather than resort to the traditional solution of adoption.

The extent to which people turn to sex as one of the few freely available wartime pleasures is also indicated by the statistical barometer of the medical clinics and the courts.

Veneral infections spread through the military and civilian populations. By 1941 the national VD statistics had increased by 70 per cent since the beginning of the war. In London and the seaports the rise was more dramatic, with Liverpool's health authorities reporting an alarming four-fold increase in cases of syphilis, with the rate "still rising".

6 Unmarried mothers became candidates for social welfare?

Later, with the arrival of the first American troops on British soil in the spring of 1942, the national VD rate was to soar to levels that were almost epidemic.

In the courts, the number of adultery petitions filed after 1942 rose by 100 per cent each year above the 1939-42 average, and the final 12 months of the war saw a spectacular 800 per cent jump in the number of husbands suing for divorce on the grounds of adultery. By 1945, two out of every three petitions were being filed by men whereas previously, by women had been in the majority until 1940.

Even before the Second World War had ended, something approaching national panic overtook church and lay organizations about the wartime breakdown in sexual conduct.

Indeed, so many marriages were threatened by wartime adultery that one English bishop proposed a blanket indulgence for war-separated couples who went through another religious ceremony to renew their marriage vows.

This was too radical a proposal to be taken seriously, but the Archbishop of Canterbury launched a crusade of moral reconstruction two months after Hitler's death and called upon people to reject "wartime morality" and return to living Christian lives.

Otherwise, it was prophesied, the British Empire would crash like Imperial Rome.

Adapted from *Love, Sex and War: Changing Values 1898-45*, by John Costello, to be published by Collins (£9.95) on August 29

TOMORROW

When the boys came home

The last terrible secret of the Second World War.



We name the guilty men.

'Unit 731' a new TVS documentary, uncovers the horrifying truth about Japanese germ warfare experiments on Allied prisoners, the doctors who perpetrated them and got away scot-free. 10.30pm, **TVS** tonight on ITV.

Actions speak louder

From Donald Durban, Secretary, Trusthouse Forte, Park Lane, London W1.

Much as I am tempted to, I really cannot let the ill-informed letter from Mr Peter Lowry, which appeared on the Spectrum page of your August 2 issue, go unanswered.

The accusation that the directors of Trusthouse Forte have done little to enhance their shareholders' investment is best answered by letting the figures speak for themselves.

In the 10 years to 1984, earnings per share have increased at an average annual rate of 18 per cent. The book value of the shareholders' investment has increased at an average annual rate of 21 per cent. And the price per share on an equivalent basis has risen at an average annual rate of 35 per cent.

On a short-term perspective, earnings per share in the past two financial years have increased by 33 per cent and 19 per cent respectively and dividends per share have increased by 18 per cent and 15 per cent. I assume this is the main reason Mr Lowry bought the shares in Trusthouse Forte, which I note he still holds.

I wonder whether Mr Lowry's equally vague criticism of our levels of service are made with the same lack of objectivity? The fact that he admits to being a "frequent user" of our hotels certainly suggests that, like his

TALKBACK

investment decisions, his decisions as a hotel user are at odds with the comments in his letter.

We have never denigrated the quality of the hotels in the Savoy Group or hotel management and staff. However, our luxury hotels are widely recognized as being amongst the best in the world and when Mr Lowry refers to having to carry his own luggage I am sure he does not have in mind, for example, the Hyde Park Hotel or the Grosvenor House in London, the George V or the Plaza Athenee in Paris, the Ritz in Madrid, or the Westbury in New York.

No doubt Mr Lowry is maintaining his inconsistency by comparing hotels at different levels. It is absurd to compare a luxury hotel in London costing over £100 per night with a comfortable but modest one in the country costing £30 a night. And, of course, he is only able to do so because we have already taken his advice and looked very carefully at our existing portfolio of hotels and as a result are able to operate very successfully in a number of different markets - including that in which the Savoy hotels have traded with so little financial success over the years.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 721)

ACROSS
1 Japanese legend drama (6)
5 Steady gait (4)
8 Christ's sayings (5)
9 Photocomposition page (5,2)
11 Brown/white cattle (8)
13 Turkish spirit (4)
15 Zambesi waterfall (8,5)
17 Twirl (4)
18 Political murderer (8)
21 Uppet (7)
22 Seaside golf course (5)
23 Hitch (4)
24 Texas Ciudad Juarez neighbour (2,4)

DOWN
2 Prestige (5)
3 N America (1,1,1,1)
4 Forbidden (13)
5 Strong desire (4)
6 Gain mastery (7)
7 Not recommended (5,7)
10 Fussiness (10)
12 Loose head cover (4)
13 Wolf whistle (7)
14 1960 non-tariff group (1,1,1,1,1)
16 Waterlight float (7)
19 Decline (5)
20 Barrel plug (5)
22 Edge (3)
SOLUTION To No 720
ACROSS: 1 Costa 4 Honesty 8 Chant 9 Tidings 10 Overdone 11 Diva 12 Wolf whistle 17 Any 18 Unserious 21 Selva 22 Tribe 23 Pendant 24 Alert
DOWN: 1 Cocoon 2 Siale 3 Auto da fe 4 Hot on the scent 5 Node 6 Sundial 7 Yesman 12 Tsaritsa 14 Orlan 15 Caisup 16 Ascent 19 Ovine 20 Gula

Back in the saddle

Is the western shooting its way back into favour with film fans - and financiers?

Today's smart Hollywood money is on soap operas, but they television types like *Dallas* and *Dynasty* or Oscar-winning cinema versions like *Terms of Endearment*. Soap seemed until recently to have forever washed away the dust of the west from screens big and small. Genre, we were told, had followed John Wayne to Boot Hill without even a "Goodbye, pilgrim."

But in Hollywood resurrection is just another clever conjuring trick. It has always flirted with the western, which, along with the musical, was for so many years its financial backbone. It only needed Wayne or Jimmy Stewart, Hank Fonda or Alan Ladd to buckle on a gun and ride into town for tickets to sell as fast as they could draw.

But even those who suspected a western revival might be on the way were taken aback by Clint Eastwood's *Pale Rider*, a 1985 version of Alan Ladd's *Shane* (1953). *Pale Rider* was received with polite enthusiasm at this year's Cannes Film Festival, but when it reached American cinemas the result made even Eastwood himself open his eyes. The actor-director-producer, already the world's most popular cinema attraction over the past decade, found he had made his most successful film ever. *Pale Rider* took \$21.6 million in just 10 days. It was a bigger hit than any of Eastwood's *Dirty Harry* outings or, more significantly for the genre, his previous westerns.

The puzzle for the Hollywood film-makers and accountants is whether the success of *Pale Rider* indicates a new enthusiasm for the western or is simply further confirmation of Eastwood's immense popularity. "I don't think Clint was consciously looking to resurrect the genre," says Eastwood's spokesman, Joe Hyams. But he agrees: "The macho type is fashionable this year. If the westerns that are around do well on a large scale there will probably be half a dozen next year."

Pale Rider, now turning over about \$1 million a day, was followed last month by *Silverado*, which brought the film-making nightmare dilemma of doing only reasonable business but winning wonderful reviews. The film, directed and produced by Lawrence Kasdan (director of *Body Heat*, *The Big Chill*, writer of *The Empire Strikes*

Back and *Raiders of the Lost Ark*), has been called a "yuppie western".

Kasdan says his \$23 million work is a landmark movie involving *The Big Chill* a grand display of ensemble acting including performances by Kevin Kline, Scott Glenn, Jeff Goldblum, Rosanna Arquette, Linda Hunt and a cameo by unlikely western star John Cleese.

Silverado was released in the US just before the book *Final Cut* in which details the making of the last big-budget (\$45 million) western, *Hombre*. Written by Steven Bach, the former United Artists executive who was in charge of the film, the book chronicles the financial disaster of the film which was followed, four years ago, by MGM's takeover of United Artists.

The irony of the timing is not lost on Kasdan, who says: "I don't know whether audiences are really resistant to the western - that's the inherent question *Silverado* will test. It's obviously what has scared Hollywood all these years. 'When they made *Star Wars*, science fiction was considered dead. They quit making sports films until *Rocky* came out. You wonder how long it takes the studios to realize that people will go to the movie that's offbeat and interesting."

The western vanished with its boots on in the late 1960s. After years of dominating television, even series like *Gunsmoke* - and it had seemed Matt Dillon would never die - ended. It was the period of Vietnam and macho was not fashionable.

Cable television has made money with Kirk Douglas in *Draw* and earlier this year ABC TV ran an off-beat western series called *Hillside*. CBS TV has announced a remake of John Wayne's 1939 classic *Stagecoach*. The cast will include country and western stars Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash and Kris Kristofferson. They are all hoping for a future back in the saddle.

Douglas Thompson

PlayFARMING

The great new board game for all the family. Available at larger branches of W.H. Smith, F.H. Burgess, Masey Ferguson, and other good stationery, toy shops and department stores.

FASHION

High style in the Lowlands

Most of the population of Scotland, and therefore a high proportion of the country's interestingly clad men, live in the central Lowlands. Like America, central Scotland has an east coast establishment and a wilder, wealthier west. Coast to coast may be less than 50 miles, but at times it seems as if Edinburgh and Glasgow were separated by a chasm as wide as the United States.

The capital boasts many independent schools, as well as the headquarters of the Civil Service, Scottish Law and the Church of Scotland. Male clothing in the city tends to reflect the eminent respectability of the place. Even when young men do go in for a bit of sartorial rough trade, as with Nancy Mitford's Basil, their expensive upbringing can show through, often by way of an anguished accent.

Any man modelling his dress, voice, behaviour and general demeanour on Russ Abbot's Scottish *Benny* would not be well received in Moragside or

Scotsmen are dressing to impress, from sturdy tweeds to casual canvas

the New Town. Festival time excepted, Edinburgh is largely a grey, reserved, dignified city of business suits, old school ties and intellectual *ras in arde* corduroy and tweed.

Glasgow and the industrial west have a strong tradition of young men, students included, staying at home until they marry. This gives a greater

disposable income with which to furnish the wardrobe, resulting in some smart looks.

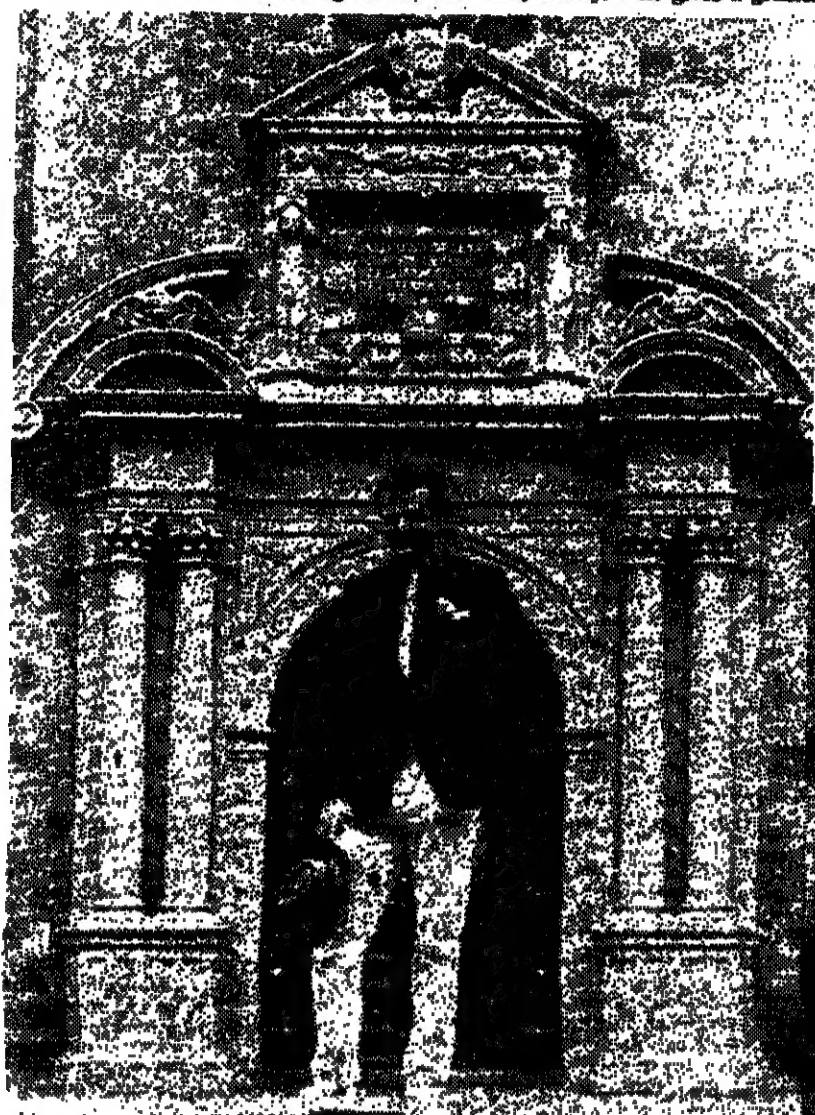
The city has seen generations of snappy dressers. Surviving photographic evidence shows how my Uncle Hugh, resident of the grandparental council house in East End Road, lived up to his nickname, Bean. Seeing him on holiday (c. 1928) with chums at Rothsay, I defy anyone to say that Jeeves had not laid out his made-to-measure plus-fours suit for him.

America influenced Glasgow, and in the 1930s, '40s and '50s Hollywood clones were all the rage. In the '60s and '70s, young men looked south, and John Stephen went to Carnaby Street. Now Glasgow has gone into Europe, with such establishments as the Café Noir, Nico's and the Café Gandolfi. Those much favoured Mediterranean pastimes, promenading and posing over a Perrier, have been unashamedly embraced by the Strathclyde street smart.

As always in Glasgow, some of the best dressed lads are from the less affluent areas. If you are young, good-looking, unemployed and living at home, then the reasons are not hard to find.

To sum up, Edinburgh is classic, and Glasgow is "galus" (happy-go-lucky). Out of town, practical and economic considerations, along with the restraints of life in a small community, give rise to more traditional clothing. Of the four men featured here, John McIntyre and Donald Fraser illustrate these principles, while Kenny Ogilvie and Nicholas Fairbairn remain interesting exceptions. Overall, however, Scotland's central belt has experienced a general loosening up.

Anne Cowan



KENNY OGILVIE

▲ He appeared at the job interview in a pale green suit and white socks. Nevertheless, Kenny Ogilvie was appointed assistant geography master at the 350-year-old George Heriot's school in Edinburgh. After a year, he still feels a conflict between the conservative clothing which is the norm at work, and his own sartorial inclinations.

Kenny Ogilvie's style is inspired more by books than by books. In his teens he used to frequent the races at his native Perth. He did not like the look of the Hoony Henry Sloanes, but was greatly impressed by the flamboyance of the turf accountants. Films like *Bonnie and Clyde* and *The Great Gatsby* were other early influences.

He favours black, particularly a black shirt with a white tie. Then there might be a flower in the buttonhole, co-respondent shoes, and a hat for a laugh. For a less formal look, Kenny takes to jeans, sleeveless black T-shirt, maroon leather jacket and a rolled-up copy of the *Edinburgh Evening News*. He

likes to carry a newspaper, as a finishing touch.

Apart from leather blousons for leisure, and pure silk shirts for evening, Kenny does not indulge in investment dressing. He argues that expensive clothes might date. His leather jackets are from Marks and Spencer, and the silk shirts come from Jenners, two contrasting stores on Edinburgh's Princes Street.

Mr Ogilvie, the teacher, tones down his image, but still thinks colleagues probably consider his appearance "loud". He has noticed "Browns" and his head of department seems "fairly amused".

There is always the odd small but telling sign of rebellion around chapel, cloister and quad. It might be the black jacket with thin white stripes, or the red tie, or white socks. In *The Heriot*, the article announcing his arrival on the staff said of his predecessor: "However in September his socks were filled by Mr Kenneth Ogilvie." That gives some indication of the approach to dress of a young man who cannot suppress a racy individuality.



NICHOLAS FAIRBAIRN

▲ The first time I saw Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, MP, Baron of Fordell, was at Edinburgh airport. He was in pale grey Edwardian dress, from the hat, via frock coat to well-heeled boot. Heads turned. A Texan tourist, himself no slouch in the colourful dressing stakes, allowed his stiletto to move through a full 180 degrees to stare. We Scots just lowered our eyes to that morning's copies of *The Scotsman* or the *Glasgow Herald*. We don't want to encourage that sort of thing. Yet Nicholas Fairbairn contends that he is following the great tradition of Scottish dress. He takes what he sees as the best of the past - tail coats, cravats, scarves, fur collars, stand-up collars - and adapts them for everyday wear. Naturally the kilt, youthfully rejected as "the flag of horror", has found its way back into favour.

The basics of Nicholas Fairbairn's wardrobe are double-breasted jackets, varian trousers, antique waistcoats and rajah jackets. There are informal shirts from Mexico and Brazil, as well as some full-length kilties. Some of the clothes he designed himself, to be made up by tailors, or by women who live near his home, Fordell Castle in Fife.

Inherited items include Compton Mackenzie's bow tie and, from a junk yard in Prestongrange, the wardrobe of a young officer in the Boer War.

Accessories are very important: footwear vital. Some of the boots and shoes (rarely lacing) are handmade. A vast array of hats, watch chains and tie pins has been amassed with little concession to the 20th century.

According to Alison Lurie, the wearer of eye-catching clothes is often a person of low status. Descended from the Dukes of Gordon, Nicholas Fairbairn can hardly be accused of that. What, then, motivates this man to dress in what he calls a romantic manner? Let Nicholas Fairbairn have the last three chilling words: "Early parental neglect".

JOHN MCINTYRE

▲ At the age of 21, John McIntyre lives at home with his parents and brother in East Kilbride, a new town near Glasgow. It is with Glasgow and with the world of pop music and magazines that John identifies. He was unemployed until recently, but he did not let that spoil his style.

Attitudes which would have been highly suspect to most young men of his father's generation are happily adopted by John. Yes, he thinks that clothes are very important. He likes being fashionable and definitely dresses to attract the opposite sex. Yes, people compliment him on his looks and of course he poses. He spends much of his disposable income on clothes. They are a very high priority. He has his hair done by an ex-girlfriend who trained with Irvine Rusk. John McIntyre has style and has no inhibitions whatsoever about flaunting it.

When he was heavily into black clothing, John hated the summer. It didn't suit him. Now that he wears white (not bright, but creamy), he enjoys being seen in the cotton and canvas widely available in Glasgow, at shops like The Warehouse, Metro and Matinique. In winter, lightweight baggy clothes give way to darker, warmer things.

John's favourite jacket is a black dinner jacket. He has an oversized suit in dark, olivey brown. Of necessity, there is also the conventional suit, though John says that at interviews "the hair is the problem". His BSc (Hons) in civil engineering from Paisley College of Technology should prove more important to his future than whatever happens to be the current coiffure.

Finding the money to keep himself in the style to which he is accustomed is another problem, but John tried to put some of his grant towards clothes. He admits to having been subsidized by his parents. It also helps to have a brother for purposes of swapping and borrowing clothes. The two brothers recently debated the wisdom of investing in half shares of a stone-coloured long cotton coat by Matinique. At £100, the coat proved just too dear, though they still hanker after it. Instead, John bought three items, including shoes, with his £50.

John changes his image often. He agrees with all the pundits that clothes make a statement about the wearer. Nostalgia plays no part, and John looks back to no golden age of male attire. His golden age is today or, better still, tomorrow.



DONALD FRASER

▲ Donald Fraser is something like the English idea of a typical Scotsman. To the Scot, he looks like a Highlander. In fact he was brought up in Edinburgh, but worked for many years in Aberdeen-shire.

As a cameraman and later as a researcher for Grampian Television, he usually wore sports jacket and flannels. Ten years ago, when he opted out to become a self-employed weaver, he found breeches or dungarees more practical. Last year Donald, his wife Fiona and their 13-year-old daughter Lilia, moved to Fiona's family house in North Berwick, 23 miles east of Edinburgh. There, Donald weaves everything, from sturdy estate tweed for gamekeepers to lightweight silk (for further information, telephone 0620 4320).

The estate tweeds often use colour blends, which echo the local landscape. In the picture, Donald wears breeches of Haddo House Estate tweed, excellent camouflage in Aberdeenshire.

Fiona, who also works at home,

designs and makes clothes under her own label. She makes up a husband's breeches from cloth which he himself has woven. It is in breeches and heavy sweater that Donald is most often seen.

To look more formal, Donald wears the kilt with a kilt jacket he had at school. His kilt is of Hunting Fraser, an ancient (muted) tartan which he claims is supposed to look as if it had been buried in a peat bog.

The Frasers' way of life, until recently country living, has been a major influence on the family's clothing. Though Donald weaves and Fiona sews, some items do have to be bought. The shopping list has a Scottish rural flavour: heavy wool stockings from McNab's, Haddington; socks from The Hopes' Shop, Stow or knitted from Harris tweed yarn (mail order from Campbell's of Beaulieu); Shetland sweaters knitted by Mrs Kemp of Castle Fraser.

Anne Cowan lives in East Lothian and is a teacher and writer. Photographs by Eric Thorburn

Suzi Menkes is on holiday

The flirt rock phenomenon comes under fire

An anti-Madonna reaction has set in the United States. American feminists accuse the 26-year-old superstar, who this week stands at the top of the British pop charts with her song "Into the Groove", of setting the cause of women back years, while American parents voice fears that her suggestive lyrics and "love me or leave me" attitude inculcate the wrong (i.e. materialistic and sexually permissive) values in their pubescent children.

Referring not particularly to Madonna, established American singer Ricky Lee Jones reflected both these points of view when she told a San Francisco newspaper recently: "There's a lot of crude, uneducated, untalented people that lecherous businessmen are using to make a lot of money. (Their) music teaches some very bad moral codes. It teaches (children) they'll get what they want if they're devious and sexual and whores".

It is not only Madonna for whom American feminists and parents are gunning. They object as a whole to American pop music's current fixation with female singers as sex objects.

Crudely speaking, record company marketing executives have observed the Madonna phenomenon and concluded that if you dress a girl in underwear and have her act and sing in a sexually provocative

way, you have a better chance of a hit.

The evidence is that children in their early teens love the results. Tired of being lectured on sexism by their teachers and parents, stimulated by the erotic images pumped out through cable by 24-hour-a-day MTV (music television), American youth has rediscovered sexuality as a form of rebellion. And that is just what it is. It is not raw sexuality as demonstrated by a handful of artists such as Tina Turner. It is more a surface Hollywood-type sexuality designed to shock, to keep

'I've been called a tramp, a harlot, a slut'

the cash registers ringing. As someone observed of Madonna recently, she is the Jayne Mansfield of pop music.

Past master of "flirt rock" is singer Prince. His successful film of last year, *Purple Rain*, and his musical protégés, Apollonia, Vanity, and Sheila E, are all outrageous, camp or simply tongue-in-cheek monuments to a phenomenon which has also been dubbed boy toy rock.

This last expression refers not just to the rubric on a famous belt worn (without a great deal else) by Madonna, but also to

the often dismissive and sexist attitude to men displayed in genre songs, like her hit "Material Girl" which says effectively: "You can have me, but only if you've got lots of money".

"Material Girl's" apparently innocuous message (which resembles many songs of the 1930s and '40s) is put in its context by Madonna's trashy, sexy public persona.

She likes to be quoted saying things like "I've been called a tramp, a harlot, a slut and the kind of girl that always ends up in the back seat of a car".

On-stage she flaunts her body, revealing much of it to her audience by what she chooses not to wear. Her trademarks are plenty of bare midriff and thigh, and frilly or lace see-through blouses which show off her bra and the outlines of her notably voluptuous figure, recently shown in full in both *Playboy* and *Penthouse*. The generally larty effect is completed by dangling earrings and necklaces, perhaps the suspicion of suspenders and, indeed, her boy toy belt buckle.

It is a formula which has brought Madonna considerable material success. In the last 18 months she has had five singles and two albums at the top of the charts.

Hired before her rise to fame for the low budget film, *Desperately Seeking Susan*, she stole the show from the



Boy toying: Madonna

accepted star Rosanna Arquette. The film smashed box-office records in the United States and is due to open in London on September 6.

Now Madonna is to marry American actor Sean Penn on Friday and claims to be too busy to take up the kind of opportunity other exponents of boy toy rock would rush at - a four-page spread in *Vogue*, photographed by Lord Snowdon.

A touch of flirt rock has been tried to revive or to put it more generously, give new direction to the careers of more mature singers like Pat Benatar and Scottish Sheena Easton.

Ms Easton has come a long

way since she shot to fame on the BBC TV talent show *The Big Time* in 1980 and went on to provide us with such hummable but undistinguished ditties as *Modern Girl* and *Nine to Five*.

Now she's divorced, remarried, living in Los Angeles, and doing nicely. She recently became the first singer to have had five top hits on *Billboard's* five major charts (pop, black, country, dance and adult contemporary).

Gone is the demure little Scots girl image. Instead Sheena has taken on the attributes of flirt rock, wearing tight, revealing clothes, and sporting seductive accessories such as gloves and lace.

Her song "Strut" with its references to "all this fascination with leather and lace" had fashionably fetishistic strains. More recently, her single "Sugar Walls", specially penned for her by Prince, reached number nine in the American charts. The song's most distinctive feature was that it was banned from a number of radio stations and cost Ms Easton a spot on the important network TV show *American Bandstand* because it was deemed "too suggestive".

The fact that Ms Easton had to go to America to become a pop siren is informative. The British public tends to reject overtly sexual pop singers,

certainly if they display no other qualities. This attitude may change, of course, if Madonna's film takes off in this country and parents are confronted with their 10-year-old daughters as Madonna-clones tarts, begging for pocket money to buy T-shirts emblazoned with the word "Virgin".

Nor is there yet in Britain much sign of the reaction against flirt rock which has been shown by parents and teachers in the US. For the time being though, Jill Smith of Decca is definitely in a minority in Britain when she says: "I cannot

'Anyone can see through Madonna...'

condone Madonna's treating men like sex objects. She's saying women are available for playing with rather than relating to on equal terms. That attitude certainly produces frothing at the mouth in many women of my acquaintance."

Sherry Garrett, music editor at *City Limits* the London listings magazine, who with Sue Steward has written a feminist-inspired history of women in rock of view. She sees Madonna as "the girl next door trying to be dirty". She praises her as a "post-feminist enter-

tainer, the *Cosmo* liberated lady", commending her lyrics for their questioning and cynical attitude to love and life.

London mother Tammy Perez says she does not feel she has to cover her 10-year-old daughter Ruth's eyes every time Madonna appears on television. "Any kid aged about two upwards can see through Madonna. She is lamb dressed as mutton. Janis Joplin was infinitely more destructive and subversive. She simply said: 'All the values I grew up with in Texas I renounce and spit upon'."

Anna Raeburn, agony aunt at Capital Radio and *Cosmopolitan*, says she has never come across any young person who has suffered psychologically from the permissive sexual attitudes in pop music.

"Madonna simply looks like an over-made-up little broad," she says. "All this posturing, it doesn't touch me. It's not a particularly comfortable image. However if Madonna is the scourge of young womanhood, young womanhood is sillier than I thought."

"The most interesting thing about Madonna is not that she is engaged to be married. You can't get more conventional than that. We'll probably see her married with a pearl in her peerless navel, poor silly cat."

Andrew Lycett

Angela Gore



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THE TIMES DIARY

Private enterprise

A copy of the banned documentary featuring Martin McGuinness has ended up in the hands of Danny Morrison, vice-president of Sinn Féin. His copy was seized by police at the weekend when he was stopped en route to Londonderry, but it was too late. Pirated copies had been taken, and are now destined for showing in the hard-line Republican clubs of West Belfast. Morrison says the film reached him from sympathizers in London. He may yet get it back: the police gave him a receipt for it. If he does so, he could offer it to the BBC1 controller Michael Grade, who wanted to see the programme again yesterday on his return from a week's holiday in the US. Sadly, the secretary for Will Wyatt, head of documentary features, was at first unable to find one - unbeknown to Grade - and was seen tramping the corridors asking producers if they had any privately recorded copies to spare.

Lashing out

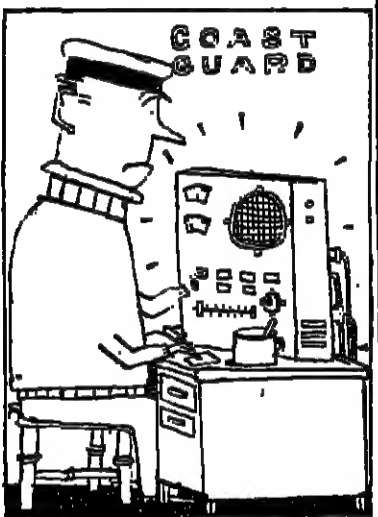
Scunthorpe will be desolate: Somerset and England cricketer Ian Botham, who lives in a £50,000 house in Epworth, South Humberside, exchanged contracts yesterday on a £300,000 Victorian home in Putney, London. I understand he is to let it until after this winter's tour. The man who doubles as a pundit and a millionaire entrepreneur Tim Hudson, who wants "rock star status" for the player.

● If the rest of television follows Channel 4's example, we soon won't need colour TV licences. In its 10 hours on air this Thursday Channel 4 will broadcast 7½ hours of old films - all in black and white.

Timeless verse

My pieces on arcane theses (last one reported: *The Leg, Muscles of the Adult Honey-Bee*) have brought to light a number of obscure facts. The man who doubles as a pundit and a millionaire entrepreneur Tim Hudson, who wants "rock star status" for the player.

BARRY FANTONI



"Mayday! Mayday! And while I'm on the air, here's a track from my latest record!"

Show your papers

The power of *The Times*. Scotsman Colin McKillop was minding his own business at Waterloo station on Saturday when he was accosted by a gang of National Front supporters returning from a violent clash with Irish Freedom Movement demonstrators. The NF men told McKillop they were going to "have him" and he demanded to know what was in his hands. "It's a newspaper," he croaked, to which one of the gang growled: "Is it *The Guardian*?" "No, no, it's *The Times*," replied McKillop, producing his copy. "That's all right then, on your way," replied the NF man.

Gripping

Today the "glue sniffing Act" comes into force and a kit has been issued to retailers by the charity R.S.O. explaining how to spot glue sniffers. Under the heading "How it is done" the leaflet says: "most sniffers use plastic bags into which they place a solvent-based product". The kit is thoughtfully packaged: in a plastic bag.

● No "ding-dongs" for Terry Prout. And no doubting the political convictions of the Liverpool councillor either: ring his council flat doorbell and you will hear the strains of the "Red Flag".

Heseltine raw

Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine is not going to enjoy the tale which wins the third bottle of champagne in the Diary's search for anecdotes, information, or photographs concerning renowned figures before they became well known. Peter Farquhar from Chiswick in London writes: "In 1968 Barbara Castle introduced her Transport Act which threatened to nationalize the bus and coach industry. The shadow transport minister was Peter Walker and his aide, a young publisher named Michael Heseltine, I couldn't get to lunch. We went to the Kordonah in Oxford Street, beneath his office. I explained the industry's position and asked him to kindly brief his boss. He looked most uncomfortable. 'Oh dear, I really don't know what to do. You see, I'm simply not used to these sorts of pressures.' How endearing."

PHS

A pay umpire for Whitehall

by Henry Phelps Brown

How much should civil servants be paid? The top salaries award has been challenged not so much on its own merits as because of its repercussions, particularly on the dispute over teachers' pay.

These embassments are so acute because the public service lacks an accepted and unified procedure for regulating pay. Hitherto three possibilities have been explored. From the time of the Priestley Report in 1955 until the present government intervened, civil servants' pay was decided by comparability. A standing inquiry reported on private sector pay for jobs deemed comparable. The government accepted that pay would normally be adjusted to maintain parity according to these findings; in return there was an understanding that the staff would not strike for more.

The system worked well for 20 years, but came under increasing criticism, mainly because in times of inflation it had become an automatic means of spreading rises, and of raising expenditure.

When the government abandoned the system in 1981, it set up the Megaw inquiry to consider alternatives. The inquiry proposed a second possibility, which the government has accepted. Comparability would continue to be studied,

but more simply, and it would be only one factor which the trade unions and the government would take into account in reaching agreement. This they should normally be free to do through collective bargaining, as would be open-ended: the trade unions would be free to strike. How these proposals shall be implemented is still under negotiation.

Meanwhile we are left in practice with the third possibility: that the government itself regulates pay by imposing cash limits. This makes sense: in the United States the pay of civil servants is fixed by acts of Congress. But the difficulties of taking the same stance here are being made clear by the teachers. It is wholly undesirable that they should strike, but under present arrangements it is not indefensible. If they are not to strike, then they can only accept whatever their employers are prepared to give.

The government, as ultimate paymaster is fully justified in its own eyes in taking a painful decision. But in a free country with a tradition of collective bargaining it is not possible for any employer to expect a well unionized staff to accept without a struggle terms that they

regard as unjust. That the employer in this case is endowed with the authority of a democratically elected government does not enable it to ignore prevailing assumptions and attitudes.

So we face a dilemma that does not concern the present government alone. Any government intending to control pay unilaterally must deny its staff the right to strike, or break strikes that do occur. Any government that seeks to reach agreement through negotiation must allow its expenditure to be affected by the staff's own notions of what is fair and reasonable. Megaw's middle way is no escape route. If its "informed collective bargaining" does not lead to agreement, neither side will have the right to take the other to arbitration. The prospect is left open of recurrent disruption to the community and loss of goodwill in the service.

For quarter of a century those troubles were precluded because civil servants were assured of pay regulation by a procedure which they accepted as fair and reasonable and in which government did not generally intervene. If no automatic adjustment is acceptable any longer, peaceful working can be resumed

only if a procedure is provided to cover failure to agree.

There must be a commitment on both sides to submit to arbitration. The trade unions must undertake not to strike; the government must undertake to accept the award, subject only to the power of Parliament to overrule it by resolution of both Houses, and to the pay of public servants being treated in common with all pay under incomes policy. Such commitments can be required only if the independence of the arbitral body is assured by constituting it as a standing commission whose members enjoy the status of judges of the High Court.

It is a familiar objection to arbitration that it tends to steer down the middle, and thereby encourages extravagant claims. But as Lord Rochester pointed out in the recent debate on top pay in the House of Lords, this is to confuse arbitration with conciliation.

The effect would be to instruct public opinion and to promote the acceptance by the parties of an award that has been made on explicit and reasonable grounds after a fair hearing.

Sir Henry Phelps Brown is Emeritus Professor of Economics of Labour, at the University of London. His books include *The Inequality of Pay*.

Martin Fletcher on a change of heart by David Owen

Alliance seats: divide and rule?

One fundamental question brings out all the underlying tensions in the Liberal/SDP Alliance: how best to divide the parliamentary constituencies between the two.

The question throws into sharp relief the SDP's desire for centralized control and the Liberal belief in constituency autonomy; the Liberal inclination towards merger and the SDP's coyness (under its present leadership) the SDP's insecurity as the newer, smaller and more vulnerable party and Liberal chauvinism.

All kinds of attempts have been made to reconcile these opposites. There have been national, regional and now local negotiations; joint closed selection, where combined local party memberships choose a candidate from a specified party, and joint open selection, where combined memberships choose the best available candidate regardless of party. Not one has been found that is immediately acceptable to both leaderships.

It is now midway between elections. The Alliance has tasted electoral success and is riding high in the opinion polls. Its leaders are embarking on a series of initiatives. Joint commissions are busy negotiating such policy pitfalls as defence. But has the Alliance successfully negotiated the minefield of seat division? The answer appears to be a qualified, hesitant yes.

The clue lies in the agreement of the SDP's national committee in July to joint open selection in 27 seats (15 previously fought by the SDP and 12 by the Liberals) - the first such bulk package it has approved. In September it is expected to approve a similar package.

Joint open selection was the process by which the Liberals, generally unhappy with the nationally imposed carve-up of seats for the 1983 general election, wished to see disputed seats redivided. It would ensure, they said, that the best candidate would be selected and would be guaranteed the wholehearted campaigning support of both parties.

David Owen said no. He had just inherited the leadership of a party whose MPs had been cut from 29 to six, whose morale was low. Publicly, he opposed joint open selection because he believed that he had to protect his party's integrity, and that joint open selection represented the first step towards a merger. Privately, he feared that through joint open selection the numerically superior Liberals would vote their own men into every seat.

His stance was endorsed by the party's Salford conference that



The two Davids: grassroots familiarity breeds cooperation

autumn which agreed that joint open selection should only be permissible in exceptional circumstances.

Owen opposed the package put together last year by the Welsh SDP and its Liberal counterparts whereby there would be four joint open and nine joint closed selections in the principality, although it went through when the Welsh SDP imposed its second. He also imposed an agreement reached between the local parties in Cambridge whereby all three seats would be decided by joint open selection. Again, the local SDP held sway on two of the seats by threat of rebellion. (The third, Cambridge City, is still the subject of dispute, which means that the SDP president, Shirley Williams, has been unable to declare her interest in it for fear of offending Owen.)

Why, then, the SDP's apparent change of heart? The answer is that the party leadership's opposition to joint open selection has served its purpose and is fast becoming a liability.

Well over 500 of the 633 seats have now been settled, in clusters corresponding to SDP area parties. Thus a cluster of, say, five constituencies has tended to divide three and two. Nationally, an approximate parity between the two parties has been achieved.

This, combined with the resurrection of the SDP over the last two years with Owen at its helm, means that his initial post-election fears have largely been allayed. So too, perhaps, have been his fears, or suspicions, that Liberals would place their own interests before those of the Alliance.

There have been, and still are, problems caused by one party

refusing to give ground to the other. Two years of negotiations have failed, for example, to decide who will fight Bradford North. In Leeds North-West - a winnable seat which the Liberals reluctantly gave to the SDP last time - nine months of talks have failed to break the deadlock, both parties have selected unofficial candidates.

Elsewhere, positively Heath Robinson solutions have been needed to break the impasse. Rival claims to Bristol North-West have, after 33 meetings, been solved by pairing it with Bristol West. All members of both local parties will vote in each, but on condition that if they vote Liberal in one they must vote Social Democrat in the other - ensuring one seat to each party. The "Bristol solution" is "most peculiar and most odd and not to be used by anyone else", declares the area's former SDP chairman Harry Faulks.

The bulk of the negotiations, however, have been conducted in a remarkable spirit of cooperation. Old Liberal suspicions of former Labour enemies who joined the SDP have long since evaporated. The experience of joint campaigning in local, national and European elections, and the need to work together in ever-increasing numbers on Alliance council groups, has in many places strengthened relationships. "There is now a recognition that the

SEATS SETTLED TO DATE

	SDP	Lib
England	178	224
Wales	17	21
Scotland	36	36
Total	229	281
Total number of seats to be settled (excluding Northern Ireland): 633.		

Where the Forgotten Army is remembered

The largest Commonwealth war cemetery in the Far East is at Taungkyan in Rangoon. The 14-acre site, a gift from the Burmese people, stands in surroundings of scrub and low jungle, beside the Rangoon-Promote road. It contains the graves of 6,364 British and Commonwealth servicemen from the Second World War (together with 51 from the years 1914-18). During the immediate postwar years their remains were taken there by the Army Graves Service from other war cemeteries in the interior of Burma, from civil cemeteries, and from isolated sites.

The graves are individually marked by low bronze plaques which record the name, age, service details and date of death of each man. At intervals stand pergolas, on which tropical flowering plants grow freely. The boundary hedges are of hibiscus, interspersed with many varieties of flowering trees.

In the centre of the cemetery stands the Rangoon Memorial, a large open structure in white stone. Its central rotunda is flanked by twin colonnades, inscribed with the names of a further 27,000 officers and men of the British and Commonwealth Land Forces who lost their lives in Burma and Assam but whose burial places are "known only to God".

From the ground, the plain but stately perspective of the Rangoon Memorial is deeply impressive, but it is from the air that one sees it to greatest advantage. Guarded by the ordered rows of gravestones and set in trim lawns that are faithfully watered and protected against the rigours of a Burmese dry season, the brilliant white stone of the memorial is a conspicuous landmark, while the vivid colours of the garden contrast sharply with the drab browns and



dark greens of the surrounding countryside.

The details given on each grave are sometimes enough to enable one to guess where the original burial took place. Chindits killed in the remote valleys of Upper Burma are buried here, and so are many soldiers from the battlefields of Meiktila and Mandalay. It is possible that some fell within a short distance of their present memorial when, withdrawing from Rangoon in March 1942 along this same road, the Army encountered Japanese forces nearby. Fourteen of the officers and men commemorated here were awarded the Victoria Cross.

Several thousand of those who

perished during the construction of the Burma-Siam railway lie in three other cemeteries, at Kanchaeburi and Chungkai in Thailand, and at Thanbyuzayat in the adjacent Tenasserim division of Burma. The existence of such large numbers of graves in these places, now so remote and undisturbed, is a powerful reminder of the stringent hardships once endured here by so many.

Many of those who fought in this theatre of war were not professional soldiers. They left civilian life for the call of duty, brought by the exigencies of war to these strange and distant places. Forty years on, one has the impression that they are, perhaps, more at home now. Today,

The cemetery and memorial

the visitor to one of their great cemeteries somehow receives the impression of an English garden - colourful with many un-English flowers, and warmed by a stronger sun, but nonetheless planted and tended with a devotion that has created an echo of the homelands that lie so far beyond the encompassing jungle.

In life they were the Forgotten Army. In death, let us remember them.

Michael Haynes

The author's father who served in the R.I.F. is buried at the Taungkyan cemetery in Rangoon.

Digby Anderson

Two halves and lots of froth

What made the row about top peoples' pay a really good row was the opportunity to juxtapose the government's extravagant generosity to judges and bureaucrats with its meanness to the teachers, now starving on six-week holidays. Fred Jarvis of the NUT, several politicians and lots of journalists saw the opportunity for a Sybil, grasped it, and everybody enjoyed it enormously.

Sybil is an ideal game for the summer holiday season when time can hang on the hands. Any two or more people can play. Simply toss a coin to determine who goes first. The winner then stands up straight, facing the other players, takes a deep breath, and says: "The real division in our society is between 'rich and poor', 'the impoverished North and the affluent South-East', 'those prepared to work and those who wait for state handouts', 'men and women'. The choice is wide enough to accommodate all ideologies."

The first player has now "struck his Sybil" and must justify it to the other players who then have their opportunity to produce a better Sybil. Most good Sybils turn out to be based on tried and popular dichotomies but with an original twist. The two classes divided are either ironically contrasted ("the real world in our world's stony mountains of food and those who have nothing to eat") or involve conflict and blame ("the rich of the industrialized world whose riches are made by impoverishing the poor in the third world").

A well-turned Sybil directs attention away from the fairly obvious facts that the classes usually have more difference within than between them (consider the difference in progress between the developing countries such as South Korea and Taiwan and those in Africa which are "developing" only within quotation marks); that the same individuals can spend time in both classes (many affluent people in Britain have seen tough times and that two classes in a fairly stony and simplistic classification anyway).

The art of Sybil comes in the tortuous reasoning needed to sustain a highly strained classification. Let me show you. Heads it is. My go. "The real division in our society is between those chaps who go to pubs and those who don't. Those who do are self-deprecating, ironic and pleasantly sceptical about changing the world. Those who don't are earnest, patronizing, missionizing and boring."

In fact my Sybil applies not to society but to a certain segment of society, the Pontificate: that is journalists, politicians, teachers, church spokespersons, union leaders, social workers and the assorted exponents of causes and lobbies who pass their time pronouncing on the condition and need of the man, woman and child in the street. Most of the Pontificate live in cultural laagers surrounded by people who agree with them and insulated, if not totally from those who disagree, then from the ordinary person about whom they pronounce.

Universities have proved good laagers, as have the many cultural

networks of media persons in London. Some of both have been hermetically sealed since the early 1970s. But I suppose the ultimate impenetrable cultural fortress is a 1980s creation, the radical lesbian couple enjoying the "support" of a local women's committee. I met a pretty little lesbian the other day who was unshakably convinced that in normal families those husbands who weren't sexually assaulting their children were torturing their wives. All evidence to the contrary was brushed aside.

She would never be convinced by statistics. Her trouble was that she had never seen the implausibility of her case; she should visit the *The Swan* on Saturday. Similarly, there are far-leftists who regularly declare, in the *New Statesman* or *New Socialist*, that Labour lost the support of *homo in via* at the last election because its programme was insufficiently Marxist. They should pay a weekly pilgrimage to the *Plasterers' Arms*. And in all political parties there are puffed up paternalists who imagine it is in the overall interest of a decent society not to have a death penalty. Nothing less than an inner city pub crawl listening to individual decent people will cure them.

Exposure to the opinions of ordinary people in pubs does not always make the Pontificate abandon its prescriptions for those peoples' welfare but it does make it more cautious, less hopeful of success, more able to laugh at the pontifications for what they are, and generally less tedious.

But, you will say, stern lesbians and earnest politicians do visit pubs: you have seen them. Quite so. They go to a pub, a pub where they are sure to meet chaps like them. I am talking about going to pubs where you might and do meet anyone. And even these pubs won't have the desired effect unless they are treated properly. The other night in *The Horse* there was a sudden invasion of insurance salesmen who formed an instant circle, their shiny suited bottoms pointed outwards, oblivious to all except their own talk of premiums and mileage allowances.

Well, you wouldn't think of behaving like that in the doctor's, why do it in the pub? You can't expect a cure if you don't give it a chance and listen. For pubs are the places where eavesdropping is permissible, easy and worthwhile, especially if the talker has had a few. An hour in a pub a couple of times a week is just the thing for an ideologue. It will wreck his assumptions about what *homo in via* wants, dampen his enthusiasm to do things on his behalf, play havoc with neat schemes, and subvert the pontificator's persistent paternalism.

The cure for paternalism. Utopian, pontificators is not argument but the Cricketers Arms at drinking up time of a Friday. The "real division", at least among the pontificating classes of our society, is between those who go to pubs and those who don't.

No, no. No objection yet. You did not pay attention to the explanation of the rules. It's now your turn. You have to produce a better Sybil.

The author is director of the Social Affairs Unit.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Your questions avoided

You may have read about the Scargill approach to being interviewed. You may also have read about the Thatcherite approach to being interviewed - indeed, you may have read about the Scargill/Thatcher interview approach, as if the two were the same.

Well, they are now, thanks to extensive research work in our Interview Technique Studios. The few differences between the two have been broken down to produce one simple technique which anyone can learn. Basically, the idea is to go into an interview knowing exactly what you want to say, whatever the questions might be.

We asked the head of our Interview Technique Studios, Adrian Wardour-Streete, to explain more about it.

Q. Just how does this technique work, Adrian?

A. Work? If it's work you want to know about, I think you ought to ask how three million people in this country are being prevented from working.

Q. Coming back to this technique, can it work in any situation?

A. Any situation would be better than the one we find ourselves in today, with three million people out of work.

Q. I take your point. Now, you said to me earlier that the whole idea of this technique was to be alert to the prejudices of the interviewer and substitute your ideas for his. Is this so?

A. I may or may not have said that - it is quite irrelevant. May I remind you that on July 25 you said - and I quote - "It is the job of the interviewer to ask as many loaded questions as possible?"

Q. I really can't remember...

A. Did you or did you not?

Q. I believe I may have done.

A. Exactly. You see, Sir Robin, I have stated my position and I see no reason to change it.

Q. Look, Adrian, I just want to know about the interview technique, for heaven's sake. If I were to tie you up in that chair and point a gun at you, do you think you might give me a straight answer then?

A. I believe that violence is never the answer to any question. It is contemptible.

I think that shows the efficacy of the technique, which is guaranteed

to leave any interviewer tied up in knots. But how does the technique work in everyday life? Well, here's how you might use it when being interviewed for a job:

Q. So you want to work for Grately Construction, Mr Smith. May I ask what experience you have of civil engineering?

A. I think the question to be asked here is, what experience Grately Construction has of civil engineering. During the last three years its profit margin has shrunk and its order books have grown smaller and smaller. Not only that, but it has shed 800 workers...

Q. Yes, yes, quite. Mr Smith, what workforce would you use to build a motorway bridge for a double lane country road?

A. The word workforce has a hollow ring when we remember that over three million people...

And so on. Even in ordinary conversations the technique can be used swiftly and effectively.

Q. Think there'll be another bus soon?

A. There can only be another bus soon if we all stick to the targets we have set ourselves, if we put aside party differences and keep to a common programme of effort and determination...

Q. How are you today, then?

A. Very well, thank you, compared to the thousands in Nicaragua made miserable by Reagan's paid mercenary thugs...

We will soon be announcing a series of weekend seminars at which you. Moreover readers, will be able to learn this technique in interview situations under the watchful eye of Adrian Wardour-Streete himself. But let us leave the last word to him:

Q. Adrian, you have a large company car and an enormous salary in order to teach this technique. How on earth do you justify that?

A. Nothing on earth can justify the millions of pounds lost through the miners' strike or through the cost of Trident. Everything else fades into insignificance.

Q. Thank you for not answering any of my questions, Adrian.

A. It has been a pleasure, Sir Robin.

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P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SOUTH SEAS SABOTAGE

The South Pacific has long had a dual image in France. It can be a place one dreams of escaping to, epitomized in Gauguin's "Never More". But it was also, particularly in the armed forces, a place to which one could be condemned:

...et c'est à Nouméa
Que tu finiras
Tes jours.

The latter image must surely have been uppermost in the minds of President Mitterrand and his government this summer. The South Pacific is something they would dearly like to escape from.

In the South Pacific, as in the Caribbean and in the Indian Ocean, the French territories have not been included in the great decolonization process of the last generation, even though France has had to retreat from her major colonial possessions in Africa and Asia. These smaller colonies, islands for the most part, are caught in an ideological time warp. They are the victims, or beneficiaries, of that generous if unduly romantic vision according to which the ultimate destiny of France's colonies was to be not independence but accession to the full benefits of citizenship of the French Republic.

Of course, none of that can be taken quite seriously since Algeria, of which every French leader including M. Mitterrand had declared with passionate conviction that it was an inalienable part of France, became independent in 1962. Independence will not be denied to any population which shows a settled determination to achieve it. But in these smaller territories, whether because of the presence of large French settler communities, or because of the financial benefits of having a direct claim on the central French exchequer, or because the local elites are genuinely seduced by the grandeur of belonging to *la grande nation*, no such settled

determination has yet made itself felt. Pro-independence parties exist in most of them, and occasionally win a parliamentary seat or two. But majority sentiment remains, on balance, in favour of being French.

In particular that has been true, so far, in French Polynesia in spite, or because, of the use of that archipelago for the testing of France's nuclear weapons. There are, no doubt, considerable economic benefits accruing to the local population from the presence of a large French military and scientific establishment. The majority of Polynesians seem more sensitive to this aspect of things than to the real or supposed danger to their health and safety from the proximity of very carefully shielded nuclear energy. It is elsewhere in the Pacific, and notably in New Zealand, that French nuclear testing in the area of American and British nuclear submarines, has become a highly emotive political issue.

The independence movement in New Caledonia is unrelated to that issue. It arises from the fact that the native Melanesian community there has seen itself rapidly outnumbered by a settler population, mainly from France but including Polynesians and people from other parts of the Pacific basin. They asked to be given independence before it was too late, so that they could remain masters in their own house. To French Socialists that seemed a reasonable demand, but by the time they came to power in Paris it already was too late, and they have found themselves confronted with an insoluble problem. The immigrant population, egged on by the government's opponents in France, is now large enough, apparently, to block any mechanism the government can devise for moving towards

independence while preserving even a semblance of full-hearted popular consent.

The latest scheme thought up by M. Edgard Pisani, dividing the territory into four carefully gerrymandered regions, would probably not have done the trick anyway, and it has now been struck down by France's Constitutional Council - not for gerrymandering as such (which is accepted in France as a normal function of government) but for excessively blatant gerrymandering, a somewhat subjective judgement, but one from which there is no appeal. So the French parliament has had to be recalled in mid-August (*scrageuse*) to pass in amended form a law which no longer has any purpose other than to shelve the New Caledonia problem until a new government formed in all probability from the present opposition can have the joy of coping with it.

And now the Greenpeace affair! Here too the Mitterrand administration will surely see itself as victim. Whatever its interest in keeping eco-pacifists away from the Mururoa nuclear testing zone, it could hardly have believed that interest was best served by resorting to sabotage and murder on the territory of a friendly country. Evidently there were French agents abroad (the mysterious Turgenev couple), and apparently they had some connection with the perpetrators of the attack. Was this a case of *excès de zèle* by operatives under inadequate control? Or could the French government have been somehow set up by people hostile to one or other of its policies in the South Pacific, as for instance the settler lobby in New Caledonia? Can it be pure coincidence that the mysterious boat, the *Ouvéa*, which has now disappeared, was chartered in Nouméa? Or does the game of bluff and double bluff go even deeper than that? It is certainly enough to spoil a presidential as well as a parliamentary holiday.

SPOILS TO THE HUN

The suggestion of Mr John Prescott, the opposition industry spokesman, that a performance payment for Mr Ian MacGregor's term as chairman of British Steel would be like paying Attilla the Hun for sacking Rome need not be taken too seriously. It is, however, a just criticism of the structure of the deal made by Sir Keith Joseph as Industry Secretary in 1980 to pay for Mr MacGregor's services.

That deal was bound to be unusual because Mr MacGregor wanted to keep his position as a partner in the American banking firm Lazard Freres. A payment to Lazard was needed to keep the position open for his return - delayed in the event by his appointment to the National Coal Board. Sir Michael Edwards had an equivalent though less controversial arrangement for his secondment from the Chloride group to run BL.

The MacGregor deal, however, was needlessly complex and misrepresented on all sides from the start. This reflected partly the sheer scale of payment, up to around £2 million for three years, including Mr MacGregor's salary. In 1980, Britain was simply not accustomed to trans-Atlantic scales of paying for top managers and certainly not in the public sector.

There was also, however, an element of fashionable ideology

in the idea that up to £1.15 million of the total package would depend on Mr MacGregor's performance. Payment by results is a sound idea in principle, especially when this sort of money is involved. In practice, however, there was never any chance of performance at British Steel being related to a simple measure as is normally the case in the private sector.

Mr MacGregor was appointed to do an unpopular job, cutting the steel industry down to an economic size as well as improving productivity and commercial performance and transferring as much as possible back to the private sector. Moreover, the results of the British Steel Corporation were bound to be influenced by factors outside its control, including the state of the world steel industry and regulations imposed by the European Commission as well as the coal strike.

Hence a committee of five was needed to evaluate performance, with appointees from Lazard and the Government balanced by an independent chairman. Originally, they were to fix payments in two stages, following the publication of British Steel's accounts for the financial years to March 1984 and March 1985 respectively. That the first part of this exercise was postponed for a year to avoid bad

publicity during the coal strike merely underlines how inappropriate it was. When Mr MacGregor was appointed to the NCB a straight payment of £1.5 million was made to Lazard Freres with no performance element.

The deal having been made, however, it must now be honoured and the results of the committee's deliberations will be known in the next few days. They should certainly reflect some successes. From being bottom of the European steel league in terms of operating efficiency, British Steel is now near the top and progress has continued apace since Mr MacGregor's move. Financial performance has also improved dramatically. Further restructuring and the coal strike produced a heavy loss in the latest accounts, but British Steel is currently operating at a profit.

Even if the committee tried to eliminate extraneous factors from its judgement, however, it would be odd if they opted for the maximum. Moreover, Mr MacGregor cannot escape some responsibility for steel's troubles last year. His arrangement with the NCB does not include a financial performance element. The general expectation that he will not be reappointed when his current term expires next year carries its own judgement, however, and that is worth its weight in gold.

ROMAN CHINESE

The human rights guarantees given by the People's Republic of China as part of the Hong Kong settlement include, as they must if they mean anything, guarantees that the religious freedom now enjoyed there will survive the incorporation of the colony into the republic's jurisdiction. The awkward case, which has received specific attention by both the British and the Chinese, is presented by Hong Kong's small but not insignificant Roman Catholic community. So they will not be required to fall into line with the only form of Catholicism officially tolerated in the rest of China, that represented by the Patriotic Catholic Association. The latter was forced to break with Rome as the condition of its survival, while the diocese of Hong Kong - strictly speaking an apostolic vicariate - has retained its ties.

Special guarantees are much less satisfactory than the proper application of the principle of religious freedom throughout the whole of China. Protestant and Patriotic Catholic churches are now granted a fair measure of tolerance, including the right to conduct fraternal relations with churches outside China. The ideal would be for the authorities to withdraw from this area altogether, leaving entirely to each individual the choice of personal religious persuasion,

including, if the individual wishes it, membership of a church in communion with Rome.

The problem is Taiwan. Catholics were among the mainland Chinese who fled there when the Communists emerged victorious from the civil war, and in an age of confrontation, when it seemed Catholicism and Communism were utterly incompatible and irreconcilable foes, the Vatican irrationally aligned itself in favour of the emigrés. Communion with Rome, therefore, came to stand for disloyalty to the Peking Government, and many mainland Chinese Catholics were imprisoned. They had the alternative, albeit not a very comfortable one during the cultural revolution, of becoming "patriotic Catholics", who now constitute the largest Christian group in China. But what is by no means clear is the extent to which members of the Patriotic Catholic Association are wholeheartedly committed to the perpetuation of their break with the papacy.

There is increasing fraternal traffic between patriotic Catholicism and the indigenous Roman Catholicism of the rest of the Far East, and numerous clues suggest that a rapprochement is possible. Even if it is conceivable eccl-

siastically, the Chinese Government is bound to require some movement from Rome on the Taiwan issue before it is conceivable politically. A church whose central government, the Holy See, enjoys the advantages of sending and receiving diplomats is in this case faced with the corresponding disadvantages associated with diplomatic wrong-footedness. And there is some merit in the Chinese case that relations between Taiwan and the mainland are none of the Vatican's business. It is a temporal, not a spiritual, matter.

The situation has had some odd consequences. "Patriotic" Catholicism has remained loyal to the Tridentine Latin rite, because, not being in communion with Rome, it has not accepted the reforms associated with the Second Vatican Council. Were it to do so, either in the process of returning to the fold or of its own accord, native Catholicism in China would find itself much more Chinese, and in a sense, much more patriotic. It could, in worship and in theology, sit much closer to Chinese culture, and it could begin to make a distinctively Chinese Christian contribution to the global church. Chinese patriots should welcome the prospect. The Vatican should take the steps necessary for it to become politically possible.

High level virtues of a low flyer

From the Director of The Society of British Aerospace Companies

Sir, May I make two points in connection with your last Saturday's leader (August 3) "Flying without the French".

The Tornado has got an undeserved reputation for being extremely expensive and although the cost may seem horrendous to the layman when its capabilities are examined and compared with those of possible contenders, whether from the USA or elsewhere in Europe, it is a most cost-effective aircraft and has an excellent chance of being sold abroad. In fact, its lack of competitiveness, as far as sales abroad are concerned, lies more with its sophisticated terrain-following and weapon systems which are necessary to penetrate the sophisticated modern Soviet defences.

This fact is, of course, the nub of the problem when comparing the French ability to market their fighter aircraft abroad which has been demonstrably better than ours. We build aircraft so that our air force and those of our partners can match the Soviet threat. The French eye is firmly fixed on the exportability of the aircraft and the French air force have to accept the second best result.

If we are serious about defence, as we should be, then that is the disadvantage with which we are faced. But it is surely better to have an aircraft which can really perform the role for which it was created than a good-looking and still expensive symbol which will simply not cope in the Western Europe defence environment.

It is not only, of course, in Western Europe that such comparisons need to be made. One surely does not need to be reminded of how the Argentinian pilots fared in their Mirage fighters when confronted by British Sea Harriers and British Rapier low-level defence systems.

It is indeed sad that we could not reach agreement with the French, but nevertheless the trilateral solution is a good one not only for the air forces of the three nations at present in the consortium but also for our industries and our balance of payments. It will, I hope, prove to be an export winner as well as being more closely in line with the future and increasingly sophisticated requirements in the Third World.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN CURTISS, Director,
The Society of British Aerospace Companies Ltd,
21 King Street,
St James's, SW1,
August 7.

Independence of BBC

From Lord Greenhill of Harrow.

Sir, The recent row over the *Real Living* programme has caused nothing but pain to the friends of the BBC. But in the flood of publicity certain important things are lost sight of. Those who care to study the licence under which the BBC operates will see that the Corporation is bound hand and foot by the Government.

The fact that successive governments have not used their good sense and the high standards of the BBC, but the fact that the Corporation is a "free standing" organisation and forbidden ground for government influence is quite absurd.

The BBC quite legitimately operates a powerful lobby. One of the cornerstones is the independence of the External Services. As Sir Anthony Parsons (August 6) points out, this independence is simply not believed by very many overseas governments who cannot imagine how the British Government can pay for a service on which it chooses to exercise no influence whatsoever.

To be measured against the credit which the impartiality of the External Services earns is the fact that the concentration of the past on our industrial problems sends our overseas competitors laughing all the way to their banks.

Admirers of the BBC's *Yes Minister* series will recall the episode in which Sir Humphrey has his way with the Director-General who throughout their exchanges over the dinner table repeatedly reminds the senior Civil Servant of his total independence. This programme is, of course, a caricature but all good caricatures have some basis in fact.

Yours,
GREENHILL OF HARROW,
House of Lords,
August 9.

Room for improvement

From Mr Stephen Haskell

Sir, Why is it that on a recent visit to France I was able to stay at a wide variety of hotels, in perfect comfort, for prices ranging from 60 to 80 francs a night? This was outside Paris, but the room usually included a shower. I very much doubt if I should do as well in this country at three times the price.

The French system of charging by room, rather than person, also seems much more equitable, and would no doubt do much to encourage family occupancy. Surely this is a consideration that should be looked at in any discussion of tourism in Britain.

There may well be some factor which demands that British hotel rooms should cost more than three times their French equivalent: if so, I should like to know what it is.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN HASKELL,
13 Park Vista, SE10,
July 26.

The opening sentence of Professor G. M. Stirling's letter (August 8) should have read: "In this hospital and others like it, 30 per cent of infants live-born between 24 and 28 weeks of pregnancy survive, the vast majority without serious disability".

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Putting a value on UK's salmon riches

From Mr Ted Hughes

Sir, If the legally-licensed Northumbrian drift net fishery, in which Mr Straker (July 23) tells us there are 500 men, officially caught 77,220 salmon in 1984 (Lord Lansdowne, July 29), and if each fish averaged 10lb in weight, with a quayside value of £2 per lb (round figures), making £20 per fish, then the returns were about £3,000 per man or £1½ million in all, for that year.

On outside observers must sympathise with the Northumbrian fishermen. If they were self-employed some of them must have barely covered their expenses. But he must also sympathise with another group.

Those 77,000 fish, it is said, were all returning to spawn in east coast Scottish rivers where they had been bred (presumably at some cost). If they had escaped the drift nets (and also escaped the Scottish estuary acts - with their ancient tradition - where each fish would still have brought in no more than £20), they would have entered the rivers and met what Mr Machen (July 26) calls "the rod".

An estimate for the average rod catch, in heavily-fished rivers, is ten per cent of the run - in this case, say 8,000 fish. While 69,000 escaped to spawn, those 8,000 would have earned upwards of £500 each, via the pockets of "the rod", for the local economy. As Mr Machen's letter shows, this crucial equation is not always taken into account - except by "the rod", who is that much poorer, and by the local employment, which may well depend on the catch.

The results of some recent research suggest that the £500, accepted up to now as a low-limit average, is much too low; but even if we stick to it those 77,000 river-going salmon have already earned at least £4 million in real cash. That is not all.

The value of riparian fishing is based on £2,000 (sometimes £2,500) per salmon caught, averaged over three years, making each fish in any one year worth about £700 (using the low figure) to the riparian interest concerned. Besides deciding the basic market, freehold price of the fishing, this unit influences the rentable value of it, and the reputation, together with all the employment that pertains. On that reckoning the 8,000 salmon caught are worth £5,600,000.

These are the sort of sums those 77,000 salmon, instead of being all 100 per cent dead in the drift nets for around £1½ million, would have earned for the employment and economy of their home rivers. And they would still have sacrificed hardly 10 per cent of their number.

There remains everything that

could grow from the 90 per cent escapement of uncaught fish. If they did not meet somewhere a 100 per cent wipe-out, and if the spirit behind the Atlantic Salmon Trust were able to win even the first moves towards a creative, unified management of the resource, the cash value of those fish would quickly rise beyond reckoning. (Our historical records give us very little idea of what salmon can do, with a bit of the right kind of help; in a report by D. J. Solomon, which everyone interested in salmon should read, there is mention of a river on Vancouver Island, only 13 km long, but carefully nursed, to which 500,000 salmon return each year - different salmon from Atlantic salmon but not all that different.) With our rivers (the Tyne too) moving towards optimum stocks and producing their annual 30 per cent surplus, the Northumbrian fishermen's sons could well be grateful.

That misleading noun "the rod" should be dropped. In its place we need some other word, one that will cover (a) the very large and intricately-rooted industry, along the home river valleys of the salmon, roughly indicated by the figures above, and nourished solely on the inexplicable human fact that huge numbers of men and women, from every corner of our society (and of the world), will pay a great deal for the chance of catching a wild salmon in the sort of places it likes (and the better their chance of catching it the more they will pay); and (b) the future of that industry, made hopeful in exact proportion to the size of the breeding stock in the rivers; and (c), also sustained by the presence of that stock in the rivers, the possibility not simply of conserving the wild Atlantic salmon but of salvaging, from the fringes of the endangered species, a potentially colossal source of prosperity and employment.

Because in the context of his letter this is what Mr Machen's word "rod" actually amounts to, in the terms of argument used by Mr Straker.

Unluckily for all, those 77,000 salmon have already met their 100 per cent wipe-out. Their spawning replacement will now have to be looked for elsewhere. In the present state of affairs, this is no small problem. The scarcity of the supply can be judged from the fact that last year those 77,000 made up no less than one-sixth of the entire wild salmon catch (under 500,000) of Scotland, England and Wales combined.

Yours faithfully,
TED HUGHES,
c/o Faber & Faber Ltd,
3 Queen Street, WC1.

Political levy on Apex

From the General Secretary of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical & Computer Staff

Sir, Politicians like Anne Sofer write such splendid articles (July 22), it is a pity that they do not do more research to ascertain the facts. The Trade Union Co-ordinating Committee, which represents all unions with political funds, has correctly interpreted the legislation passed by this Government. Unions are required to ballot their members on whether they should continue to have a political levy. Indeed the questions put to our members have to be endorsed by the certification officer before we are allowed to publish the ballot paper.

If Mrs Sofer had consulted the members of the SDP staff who are members of Apex she would know that Tony Halmos, their delegate to our annual conference, put the SDP case rather better than she did. He stated that "no vote will be taken on whether members want to affiliate to Labour" and this was quoted fully in

our report of our conference in our journal.

More relevant to our members, both at conference and in the union at large, was a speech by a management member who announced that he was a member of the Conservative Party yet he wanted a majority "Yes" vote to enable the union to go on working in the interests of members in Parliament.

Like the 32.5 per cent of our members who do not pay the political levy, that Conservative member well knows he has two rights within the union. All our members have the right to contribute to our political fund or to contract out. Whichever choice they make all members enjoy the positive service that our sponsored MPs and the 20 other Apex Labour MPs, who attend our parliamentary group meetings, give to their industrial interests in Parliament.

Yours faithfully,
ROY A. GRANTHAM,
General Secretary, Apex,
22 Worpole Road, SW19.

Ritual slaughter

From Mr H. P. Hillier

Sir, It seems to me to be both morally and factually wrong for leaders of the Jewish and Moslem communities in this country to react to criticism of their methods of ritual slaughter by complaining emotively that it is another form of racial prejudice.

Most people believe, rightly, that any unnecessary suffering to animals must be avoided and if ritual slaughter does involve suffering (as it would seem to do) then such practice should be discontinued and the religious authorities concerned allow appropriate dispensation to members of their communities who wish to live in a country where the susceptibilities of the majority of its people are deeply offended by such suffering.

Yours truly,
H. P. HILLIER,
Fiddie Hill,
Icknield Road,
Goring-on-Thames,
Oxfordshire.

Lodgings for the ill

From Dr M. Faulk

Sir, The change in the regulations for supplementary benefit for board and lodgings has not only affected the young, homeless unemployed but affects also the mentally ill. Four patients of mine who remain chronically mentally disabled will have to leave their present accommodation, not because of time restrictions but because of the limits on board and lodging costs.

The new limits are well below the market price for board and lodgings. My four patients will therefore have to move into slum type accommodation or back into hospital.

Yours faithfully,
M. FAULK,
Wessex Regional Secure Unit,
Knowle Hospital,
Farnham,
Hampshire.

Britain and Unesco

From Mr George Cunningham

Sir, There are now only a few months left before the British Government needs to decide finally whether to take Britain out of Unesco at the end of this year or to cancel the notice of withdrawal submitted in December, 1984.

When that notice was given, the Government made clear that it would be prepared to reconsider the matter if sufficient progress were made in securing changes in Unesco practices during 1985.

Britain was one of the most important founders of Unesco and has continued to play a role in the organisation's affairs far greater than its small contribution to the budget would suggest. British experts on literary and librarianship matters have been provided to countries all over the world, to their great benefit.

The United States has already withdrawn from Unesco but expects to return within the next few years. It would be tragic if the other principal English-speaking country were now to leave the organisation and create a vacuum which the Soviet Union and other countries less devoted than ourselves to freedom of information would be happy to fill.

Mr Raison, the Minister for Overseas Development, has recently recognised that significant changes have been made in Unesco practice in the course of the last few months. That being so, surely it would be better for the British Government to cancel its notice of withdrawal and instead, in close cooperation with like-minded Western countries, to maintain effective pressure for reform within the organisation.

Yours faithfully,
GEORGE CUNNINGHAM,
Chief Executive,
The Library Association,
7 Ridgmount Street, WC1,
August 7.

ON THIS DAY

AUGUST 13 1868

Alice's... was first published in 1865, but even allowing for The Times frequent dilatoriness in reviewing new books the appearance of this notice three years after is inexplicable.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland

Some people are remarkably fond of telling their dreams, and, indeed, can often become quite animated in the recital of them. They like to relate at breakfast the odd adventures and escapes and sights and marvellous experiences of all sorts which befall them in the night, and the happy or painful unreality of which was only gently or roughly broken to them by the tap at the door or the opening of the shutters. And others like to listen to these heroes, and then become heroes, too, in their turn. Dreams, indeed, will ever be held in honour. They are our gratifying "satisfactions" and "imaginations" which are forbidden to indulge in daily life. Often, certainly, do they surely try us, yet often, too, enchant. Perhaps this morning some member of the House of Commons arose from the east row in the House to the sound of the horn on the summit of the Right, and his ecstasy when his eyes opened upon the glorious sunrise made him more than half-doubt whether he was away with the stars, or gazing upon the Alps from Westminster Tower?

There are two books which have been sadly wanting to the world - the one a good selection of dreams, and the other, in sister volume, of the dream-like reflections and sayings of children. Such books could not fail to be attractive and popular; more so, a good deal, than half the story-books and most of the novels in the world. And, especially, they would be delightful to the young, and to the old, and to the middle-aged, and to the grandmothers and aunts, and to many a man, steeped head over ears in dull realities, who finds his best rest and rejuvenation in playing his leisure hour away with the children, and becoming himself a child again, as he talks them a story, or answers their quaint questions, or listens to them sobberly fraternising with a bird, or a cat, or a fly.

Alice's Adventures in Wonderland is neither the one nor the other of the books which are wanted, but it is both and is a very charming production. It is the picture of a child's simple and unreasoning imaginations illustrated in a dream and is extremely well and amusingly done. It is a more happy place than that chosen for the scene of these adventures? What child does not wonder when it looks down a rabbit-hole and fancy to itself all sorts of odd things going on at the bottom? And what child does not find the picture of the world in perfect harmony together there? "Down, down, down..." "Curiouser and curiouser." Who will say that it was not the supreme aspiration of his childhood a suspicion of the possibility of the world still - to find some fine day something - of course in the shape of a delicious treat - which would at once enable him to shut up or expand like the hyacinth, or to pop out of his house, or to slide down a chimney, or to do anything else that he pleased?

Down below, little Alice, naturally enough, forms a wide acquaintance with all the animals and insects that be, whether of the land or the sea - a Cheshire Cat, a March Hare, a Dodo, a Mock Turtle, &c. - and the little disputatious conversations and philosophical reflections of the dream-child among these strange companions are as sweet as most droll. Now and then, perhaps, the world is excessive and somewhat near the natural simplicity of what lies beneath; but the vein below is always attractive. The child identifies itself with all things that breathe and move, and his ambition and his are all in companionship, - this is the beautiful idea of the childish mind. Alice may grow larger and smaller, so as not to be able to "replay herself," because I'm not myself, you see, and may find the "being so many different places in a day" is very confusing. But it is all proper enough. The caterpillar changes, too, and is probably likewise confused at his position, and then you have to turn into a chrysalis - you will some day, you know - and then after that into a butterfly, I should think you'll feel a little queer, won't you?

Certainly we enjoy the walk with Alice through Wonderland, though now and then, perhaps, something disturbing almost causes us to wake from our dream. That it is a little bit too clever every here and there seems to us to be the fault of a very pretty and highly original book, sure to delight the little world of wondering minds and which may well please those who have, unfortunately, passed the years of wondering.

"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," by Lewis Carroll, London: Macmillan and Co., 1868.

Initial fault

From Mr Gershon Ellenbogen

Sir, Lord Colyton (August 10) is apparently under the misapprehension that "UK" and "GB" are interchangeable terms.

Great Britain consists of England, with Wales, and Scotland (Act of Union with Scotland, 1706); the United Kingdom is Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Act of Union with Ireland, 1800); Government of Ireland Act, 1920; and the United Kingdom is the State for the purpose of international relations.

I am, etc.,
G. ELLENBOGEN,
2 Gray's Inn Square, WC1.

The limit game

From Mr A. Powys-Lybbe

Sir, But how does Mr Voss Bark (August 3) judge his own speed?

The makers of my very popular model speedometers admit that they specify speedometers reading 10 per cent fast, though with correct mileage recording.

Perhaps if Mr Voss Bark kept rigidly to an apparent 77 mph his analysis might be nearer the truth, even though his sport might be a little spoilt!

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant,
A. POWYS-LYBBE,
Breck House,
Long Lane,
Rickmansworth,
Hertfordshire.

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The sage speaks, princes quake

Dr Henry Kaufman speaks in New York and the Bank of England rushes out a tap stock in London. The relationship between the two events is not, of course, a direct one, but for traders, with their immediate approach to life, they are not only connected, they also typify the onset of the new gill-edged market. Sages like the wise man of Solomon Brothers opine and they move markets. Governments already accustomed to adapting policies to satisfy the dictates of the market, will ignore them at their cost.

According to Dr Kaufman late last week, just after the completion of the US Treasury refunding programme, the US had seen no signs of an economic rebound in the third quarter. Hence, the Federal Reserve Board would be obliged to continue to add substantially to the reserves of the banking system. An easier monetary policy eventually, could not be ruled out.

Last night, Dr Kaufman amplified his comments for *The Times*. Scattered July data, notably on personal income, production and retail sales, would be disappointing. Real economic growth for the third quarter should total no more than 2.3 per cent annualized - well short of acceptable targets.

Real growth by the fourth quarter might be up to the 4 per cent level. But an improvement of this order would require a constant boost through the banking system. Broad money, like M-1, which is currently above the official target range, was unlikely to come back within the banks. The yield curve, which currently has a spread of some 300 basis points, would probably steepen still further as investors react to the inflationary implications of a weaker dollar, a more accommodating Fed, and an expanding money supply.

Thus spoke the Doctor. Such is his influence at his best, the dollar had only one way to go, which was South. In the last 24 hours of trading, it has lost about five pence against the mark, and two cents or more against sterling. Dr Kaufman is optimistic about a soft landing for the dollar. He sees rate cuts in both Germany and London as imminent, which would help to offset the weakness of the US currency. But yesterday saw no signs of any easing on the part of the British authorities. Bill dealing rates were unchanged, as sterling rose to over \$1.38.

Against this background, gilts commenced the week's trading on a note of caution, and gains at the end of the day were more modest than sterling's strength warranted: a quarter point in the mediums and longs.

The US yield curve is upward sloping from 7 1/2 per cent for 3-month T-bills to 10 1/2 per cent for the long bond. The comparable British yields are from 11 1/2 per cent at the short end of the gilt-edged spectrum to some 10 1/2 per cent at the long end. Plainly a great deal of hope is built into the shape of the UK yield curve, which could evaporate if base rates were cut sharply and the pound suffered.

The authorities by their activities yesterday, did nothing for the market's peace of mind. The announcement of the exhaustion of the Exchequer 9 1/2 per cent 1998 "taplet" was immediately followed by the creation of a completely new tap, £800 million of Treasury 9 1/2 per cent 2002, partly paid and offered for sale by tender. Longs eased back. They are vulnerable if the authorities are bent on changing the structure of yields.

Japan hears home truths from Governor

The dispute between Britain and Japan over access to each other's financial markets is now out in the open. For the first time the Bank of England has spoken publicly about the issues at stake. Moreover, Robin Leigh-Pemberton, the governor, did not pay much heed to the

traditional diplomatic niceties in an interview published yesterday in the Japanese financial daily newspaper *Nihon Keizai Shimbun*.

The issue has focused recently on the desire of several British firms to have securities licences in Tokyo and the ambition of the big four Japanese securities houses to have banking licences in London.

Mr Leigh-Pemberton made it crystal clear in the interview that the Bank of England is not prepared to engage in any horse-trading, and it sees no linkage between banking licences in one country and securities licences in another.

On the question of reciprocity, the governor engaged in some equally straight talking. He said there was a growing awareness in this country of the yawning gap which exists between the freedom available to Japanese financial institutions in London and the limited access so far for United Kingdom institutions in the Tokyo market.

As to the criteria which Japanese securities houses must meet if they want banking licences, the governor said he would need to be satisfied that they were supervised by the relevant banking supervisory authority in Japan and the approach to supervision was satisfactory. At present, Japanese securities houses are supervised by a different department in the Ministry of Finance from banks.

The Governor expressed scepticism about the need to separate banking and securities business as laid down by the Glass-Steagall law in the United States and Article 65 of the Securities and Exchange law in Japan. Article 65 has been put forward in some cases by the Japanese authorities as one of the things giving them difficulties in approving applications from British firms for broking licences.

Sir Freddie goes for the burn

Sir Freddie Laker seems determined to put every obstacle he can in the way of the £35 million out-of-court settlement of the American legal battle that has for so long held up the privatization of British Airways.

Yesterday, his lawyers achieved at least a limited success. The vice-chancellor, Sir Nicholas Browne-Wilkinson, gave Sir Freddie the go-ahead to appeal against a court order last week validating the settlement of the Laker liquidator's action.

Outstanding claims by Sir Freddie Laker with or without Lornor and Roland "Tiny" Rowland would not be sufficiently serious in the light of the main settlement on the liquidator's action to delay British Airways flotation. If Sir Freddie succeeds in undoing that settlement, or at least preventing it from becoming operative in this country, that would be a different matter.

Sir Freddie's counsel, Mr John Beveridge QC, said before yesterday's hearing went into private session that the proposed settlement was "pitifully inadequate and ill considered." Other Laker creditors apparently do not agree.

A more powerful motivation than money drives Sir Freddie and he will presumably take his case to the Court of Appeal if the present hearing, which continues today, fails.

It appears that by appealing against last week's court order Sir Freddie may already have forfeited the £5.7 million share of the settlement sum he was being offered.

This burning of bridges means that Sir Freddie now has little to lose by pursuing his claim against British Airways and others to the bitter end.

Both British Airways and the Government believe that outstanding litigation of this sort would be no worse than that faced by most big international companies and would be no barrier to a successful flotation. But it is vital that the principal settlement should stand.

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Industry's material and fuel costs fell again last month as a result of the pound's strength and weak commodity prices and have returned to the level of last summer after the sharp winter rise. Spending in the shops edged up to a new record last month.

Raw material and fuel costs for manufacturing fell by 2 per cent and, measured on a 12-month basis, were unchanged on July 1984.

Mr Norman Lamont, Minister of State at the Department of Trade and Industry, said: "A five-month decline in prices has brought industry's fuel and raw material costs back to where they were in July 1984. It is the first time in over seven years that manufacturers have had 12 months of zero material cost inflation. The last time was

MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY'S INPUT COSTS

	Index	12-month rate
(1980=100)		%
1984 Q1	133.6	7.2
Q2	134.2	8.7
Q3	134.1	7.5
Q4	140.2	9.2
1985 Jan	145.5	9.0
Feb	147.8	10.1
Mar	145.6	9.5
Apr	140.8	5.2
May	136.8	2.8
June	136.7	1.7
July	134.0	0

Source: Department of Trade and Industry

between March 1977 and March 1978.

The pound, which rose by 4 per cent on average last month, accounted for about half of the fall in costs. The remainder was due to weak world oil and commodity prices.

In spite of the fall in material and fuel costs, there was a 0.3 per cent rise in producer output prices last month. The 12-month rate rose slightly, from 5.6 per cent to 5.7 per cent.

This is in sharp contrast to earlier this year, when prices from manufacturers were rising far more slowly than their input costs. The main explanation is that wages, which account for around two-thirds of total costs, have continued to rise strongly.

Wages growth has accelerated slightly since the turn of the year, and productivity growth has slowed, boosting unit wage costs quite sharply.

Therefore, while the sharp reduction in the 12-month rate for industry's material and fuel costs - down from 10 per cent in February to zero last month - should help inflation prospects, the rise in output prices may be a better guide to the underlying inflation rate.

Provisional retail sales figures for July were also published yesterday and showed that, after the 1.2 per cent rise in the volume of sales in June, there was a further 0.1 per cent increase to a new record last month.

The index of retail sales volume rose from 116 (1980=100) to 116.1 on widespread summer sales and heavy tourist spending. The Retail Consortium said that the figures would have been better, given better weather.

The volume of sales was up by 4.9 per cent on July last year, while the value of sales was 9 per cent higher. In the latest three months sales volume was up by 2 per cent on the corresponding three-months period. The growth in credit sales is still important, the Retail Consortium added. The John Lewis Partnership said sales had got off to a good start this month.

Foreign investors make quick profit in Britoil's 124p debut

By Cliff Feltham

Small investors who supported the latest bid for privatization scored instant gains yesterday when dealings got under way in Britoil's new shares.

The shares made their stock market debut at 124p compared with the offer price of 100p. The balance of 85p is to be paid in November.

However, jobbers reported heavy selling, particularly from overseas institutions keen to spot a quick profit. This pushed the price of the shares down to 118p before they closed at 121p. This still leaves a profit for the 450,000 new Britoil share-



Sir Philip Shelbourne

holders who subscribed for the Government's remaining 49 per cent stake in Britoil - headed by Sir Philip Shelbourne - which raised £450 million.

But as most were restricted to 100 shares in the allocation, brokers' commissions will reduce the profit sharply. At this stage there has been little evidence of selling by small shareholders who must wait until next week to receive their allotment letters.

Lazards, the merchant bank which handled the flotation, said it was pleased with the day's trading. The bank said that the volume of turnover in the shares had been predictable and thought it unlikely there had been much selling from overseas. There had been signs of American buying of the existing or "old" Britoil shares.

Refinery to be shipped 3,500 miles

Britain's second-largest oil refinery is to be dismantled and re-assembled to produce petrol 3,500 miles away in the United Arab Emirates, David Young, Energy Correspondent writes. The £300 million contract was completed yesterday between the Delta Group in Britain and the State of Ajman.

The Esso refinery at Milford Haven, Dyfed, covering a 38-acre site, became a casualty of European over-capacity in 1983, soon after a £100 million modernization scheme. It has been closed since then, but maintained in readiness for an increase in demand.

At its peak, the refinery handled 300,000 barrels of oil a day, but when it resumes operation in two years, in the United Arab Emirates, it will handle only 100,000 barrels a day. Much of the output will be exported to the Far East.

Details of the complex deal to ship the refinery piece-by-piece to the Arabian Gulf emerged yesterday when the ruler of Ajman, Sheikh Humaid bin Rashid al Nahai, completed the contract with the Delta Group in London.

Mr Ken Jones, chairman of the company which has been set up to handle the project, Arcol Refinery Ajman, said it would have cost £1 billion to build a refinery of this size.

Engineers are now dismantling the refinery, marking each piece individually, and preparing a computer schedule which will allow it to be re-assembled.

Most of the refinery will be dismantled into pieces small enough to fit into containers, and 200 will leave South Wales every month for the next year. A deep water slipway will have to be built to handle larger components.

Dollar weakens on fears over interest rates

The pound rose strongly yesterday on speculation about a sharp cut in the Federal Reserve discount rate in the United States. Against a shaky dollar, sterling gained 2.8 cents to \$1.3838.

The sterling index rose 0.8 to 81.5, and the pound appeared to be the chief beneficiary of dollar weakness, also gaining ground against the mark. The pound rose 2.5 pence to DM3.8680. With the dollar again the main focus of market activity,

the pound's worries of last week have been forgotten. Dealers are now saying that British authorities may be able to sneak a half-point base rate reduction without hitting the pound. On the money markets, rates edged downwards, three-month inter-bank easing 1/4 point to 11 1/2 per cent, as the pound rose.

The dollar has fallen back below the DM2.80 level against the mark, closing at DM2.7960 in London, four pence down on Friday's European close.

ISSUE OF £900,000,000 9 3/4 per cent TREASURY STOCK 2002

MINIMUM TENDER PRICE £96.00 PER CENT

PAYABLE AS FOLLOWS: Deposit with tender: £25.00 per cent On Monday, 9th September 1985 Balance of purchase money

INTEREST PAYABLE HALF-YEARLY ON 27th FEBRUARY AND 27th AUGUST

This Stock is an investment falling within Part II of the First Schedule to the Trustee Investments Act 1961. Application has been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the Stock to be admitted to the Official List.

THE GOVERNMENT AND COMPANY OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND are authorised to receive tenders for £900,000,000 of the above Stock, the balance of £100,000,000 has been reserved for the National Debt Commissioners for public funds under their management.

The principal of and interest on the Stock will be a charge on the National Loans Fund, with recourse to the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom.

The Stock will be repaid at par on 27th August 2002.

The Stock will be registered at the Bank of England or at the Bank of Ireland, Belfast, and will be transferable, in multiples of one penny, by instrument in writing in accordance with the Stock Transfer Act 1963. Transfers will be free of stamp duty.

Interest will be payable half-yearly on 27th February and 27th August. Income tax will be deducted from payments of more than £5 per annum. Interest warrants will be transmitted by post. The first interest payment will be made on 27th February 1986 at the rate of £4.7416 per £100 of the Stock.

Tenders must be lodged at the Bank of England, New Issues (S), Watling Street, London, EC4M 3AA, not later than 10.00 A.M. on Thursday, 15th August 1985, or at any of the Branches of the Bank of England or at the Glasgow Agency of the Bank of England or at the Glasgow Agency of the Bank of Ireland, 15th August 1985, not later than 3.30 P.M. on Wednesday, 14th August 1985, and 10.00 A.M. on Tuesday, 20th August 1985.

Each tender must be for one amount and at one price. The minimum price, below which tenders will not be accepted, is £96.00 per cent. Tenders must be made at the minimum price or at higher prices which are multiples of 1/2p. Tenders lodged without a price being stated will be deemed to have been made at the minimum price.

A separate cheque representing a deposit at the rate of £25.00 for every £100 of the nominal amount of Stock tendered for must accompany each tender; cheques must be drawn on a bank in, and be payable in, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

Tenders must be for a minimum of £100 Stock and for multiples of Stock as follows:

Amount of Stock tendered for	Multiple
£100-£1,000	£100
£1,000-£5,000	£500
£5,000-£10,000	£1,000
£10,000-£50,000	£5,000
£50,000 or greater	£25,000

Her Majesty's Treasury reserves the right to reject any tender or part of any tender and may therefore allot to tenders less than the full amount of the Stock. Tenders will be ranked in descending order of price and allotments will be made to tenders whose tenders are at or above the lowest price at which Her Majesty's Treasury decide that any tender should be accepted (the "allotment price"), which will be not less than the minimum tender price. All allotments will be made at the allotment price. Tenders which are accepted and which are made at prices above the allotment price will be allotted in full; tenders made at the allotment price will be allotted in full or in part. Any balance of Stock not allotted to tenders will be allotted at the allotment price to the Government and Company of the Bank of England, Issue Department.

Letters of allotment in respect of Stock allotted, being the only form in which the Stock may be transferred prior to registration, will be despatched by post at the risk of the tenderer, but the despatch of any letter of allotment, and any refund of the balance of the amount paid as deposit, may at the discretion of the Bank of England be withheld until the tenderer's cheque has been paid. In the event of such withholding, the tenderer will be notified by letter by the Bank of England of the acceptance of his tender and of the amount of Stock allotted to him, subject in each case to payment of his cheque, but such notification will confer no right on the tenderer to transfer the Stock to himself.

No allotment will be made for a less amount than £100 Stock. In the event of partial allotment, the balance of the amount paid as deposit will, when returned, be remitted by cheque despatched by post at the risk of the tenderer; if no allotment is made the amount paid as deposit will be returned. Payment in full will be made at any time after allotment but no discount will be allowed on such payment. Interest may be charged on a day-to-day basis on any overdraw amount which may be accepted at a rate equal to the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate, for every day deposits in sterling ("LIBOR") plus 1 per cent per annum. Such rate will be determined by the Bank of England by reference to market quotations, on the due date for the relevant payment, for LIBOR in due payment of any amount in respect of the Stock will render the allotment of such Stock liable to cancellation and any amount previously paid liable to forfeiture.

Letters of allotment may be split into denominations of multiples of £100 on written request received by the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 3AA, on any date not later than 9th September 1985. Such requests must be signed and must be accompanied by the letters of allotment.

THE PRICE TENDERED FOR £100 STOCK, BEING A MULTIPLE OF 1/2p AND NOT LESS THAN THE MINIMUM TENDER PRICE OF £96.00

WE HEREBY ENGAGE TO PAY THE BALANCE OF THE PURCHASE MONEY WHEN IT BECOMES DUE ON ANY ALLOTMENT THAT MAY BE MADE IN RESPECT OF THIS STOCK, AS PROVIDED BY THIS PROSPECTUS.

WE REQUEST THAT ANY LETTER OF ALLOTMENT IN RESPECT OF STOCK ALLOTTED TO US BE SENT BY POST AT OUR RISK TO US AT THE ADDRESS SHOWN BELOW.

SIGNATURE of, or on behalf of, tenderer

PLEASE USE BLOCK LETTERS

NAME(S) IN FULL SURNAME

POST-TOWN COUNTY POSTCODE

A separate cheque must accompany each tender. Cheques must be made payable to "Bank of England" and crossed "New Issues". Cheques must be drawn on a bank in, and be payable in, the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man.

IN BRIEF Mystery bid approach

Christie-Tyler, the Glamorgan furniture maker, has received a bid approach from an unnamed party. Further details are expected today. Christie-Tyler's shares jumped 36p to 78p yesterday valuing the company at £7.5 million.

In the year to March 31, Christie-Tyler made taxable profits of £1.6 million, a 17 per cent improvement over 1984. The company, which has recovered from a low point in 1982 when it made a pre-tax loss of £2.9 million, is still finding trading conditions difficult. Christie-Tyler manufactures for Harris Queensway, among others, but Harris is not the bidder.

Clayform stake

Clayform Properties, the USM property developer, has announced the purchase of an 11.6 per cent stake in Owen Owen, the department store group, acquired for £3.3 million at an average of £3 a share.

Tempus, page 15

Canal loss

Manchester Ship Canal swung from a £1.04 million profit to a loss of £1.89 million in the six months to June 30. The company pays no tax. Turnover was down from £13.2 million to £10.4 million.

Tempus, page 15

TDG profits

Transport Development Group lifted profits from £10.0 million to £11.2 million before tax in the six months to June 30. Turnover was up from £205 million to £229 million and the interim dividend has been raised to 1.7p (1.6p).

Tempus, page 15

Estimates of Britain's gross domestic product are revised upwards by an average of 0.8 per cent after five years, according to the Central Statistical Office's *Economic Trends*. Future GDP figures will include a range in which future revisions are likely to lie.

MEGGITT HOLDINGS: Meggitt is to buy A. S. Doran Holdings (UK), trading as Asdor Engineering Products, for a maximum price of £300,000.

French pay policy 'a success'

From Susan MacDonald, Paris

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development has praised France's economic policies introduced in 1983.

It says France has undoubtedly had success in pursuing a restrictive monetary and fiscal policy and an active prices and incomes policy.

Foreign demand was buoyant last year, the trade deficit narrowed appreciably, and the current account was balanced for the first time since 1979, it says in its annual survey of the French economy.

However, this progress was achieved at the cost of a standstill in public demand. Household's real disposable income was reduced and corporate investment continued to decline.

Some encouragement may be drawn from the substantial pick-up in industrial investment, but the report says, GDP's slow growth last year was almost entirely due to the external contribution.

Unemployment in France is slightly below the European average, but is more unevenly distributed and the OECD feels that the situation is likely to worsen.

Adams & Gibbon accepts £5.86m bid

BSG International and Adams & Gibbon, the motor dealers, have agreed takeover terms after BSG agreed its offer by £333,000 to £5.86 million. Adams has already fought off a £4.75 million bid from Kasep Trust this year, Alison Eadie writes.

The new terms are 10 BSG shares and 70p cash for each Adams share and £1 cash for

each preference share. The cash alternative has been raised to 285p from 270p. BSG shares closed unchanged at 25p and Adams shares jumped 14p to 300p. BSG already has irredeemable debentures representing 36.3 per cent of Adams' share capital.

Adams & Gibbon, of Newcastle upon Tyne, operates eight Vauxhall-Opel franchises and

has further franchises for Bedford, Austin Rover and Toyota. In the year to November 30, 1984, it made pre-tax profits of £654,000.

BSG runs dealerships for Vauxhall-Opel, Bedford and Austin Rover as well as Ford, Peugeot-Talbot, Volkswagen-Audi, Fiat and others. It also manufactures car components.

MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord	964.2 (+0.47)
FT All Share	620.93 (+0.51)
FT Govt Securities	83.71 (+0.42)
FT-SE 100	1288.81 (+1.88)
Bargains	21.859
Dataseam USM	98.2 (+1.12)
New York	
Dow Jones	1913.29 (-7.50)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12,372.88 (-28.31)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1899.43 (+22.92)
Amsterdam	214.8 (-1.0)
Sydney: AO	949.8 (+8.0)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1407.1 (-6.0)
Busssets:	
General	319.11 (+7.87)
Parifac CAG	217.5 (unchanged)
Parifac	
SKA General	386.40 (-0.60)

GOLD

London fixing:	
am \$266.60m	\$326.65
close \$265.75	\$326.25
237.25	
New York:	
Comex (last)	\$325.75

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Christie-Tyler	78p + 25p
Brown & Jackson	17p + 4p
Clayton, Son Higgs	142p + 22p
Nail & Spencer	20p + 3p
Select TV	8p + 1p
S. R. Gent	90p + 10p
HB Elect Comp	48p + 5p
Parkfield Grp	110p + 5p
Falcon Resources	75p + 7p
Asprey	1125p + 100p
A & M Hire	17p + 2p
Grand Central Invest	20p + 1p
Mainmet Higgs	41p + 3p
Noble & Lund	28p + 2p
Exeter Building	148p + 10p
Tops Estates	280p + 15p
Lister & Co	61p + 4p
Spencer Clark	48p + 3p
Rubercold	163p + 10p
Jelison Drilling	83p + 10p
Clayform Props	188p + 10p

FALLS:

Metal Sciences	5p - 1p
Oscronics Group	72p - 8p
Micro Focus Group	210p - 20p
American El Comp	20p - 15p
Bio-Isolates	28p - 2p

CURRENCIES

London:	
£: \$1.3838 (+0.0280)	
DM: 3.8679 (+0.243)	
SWF: 3.1873 (+0.0084)	
FF: 11.8350 (+0.0885)	
Yen: 327.92 (+4.17)	
Index: 81.5 (+0.8)	
New York:	
£: \$1.3825	
DM: 2.7875	
Index: 137.1 (-1.2)	
ECU: 20.57896	
SOR: 10.757073	

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base:	11 1/2%
3-month interbank:	11 1/2% - 11 3/4%
3-month eligible bills:	buying rate 10 1/2% - 10 3/4%
US:	
Prime Rate:	9.50%
Federal Funds:	7 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills:	7.10 - 7.08%
Long bond:	8 1/2% - 10 1/

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Selective buying lifts blue chips to eight-week high

By Derek Pain and Pam Spooner

Equities, as measured by the FT 30-share index, climbed to their highest level for almost eight weeks yesterday. Despite the drag of six index constituents going ex-dividend, the three week account started with a 4.7 points gain to 964.2 points.

Buying was, however, exceedingly selective with many second line stocks showing signs of neglect.

Among blue chips to record progress were Guinness, which responded to an early buying order, Grand Metropolitan, helped by its near £300 million American acquisition, and Thorn EMI where talks of Robert Holmes & Court's interest lingered.

The more broadly based FT-SE share index was lifted a rather more modest 1.8 points at 1,288.1 points.

Shares were helped by revived talk of lower interest rates, prompted by the firm pound, and the expected healthy debut by the Britoil partly paid shares.

Government stocks were buoyant for much of the day, on the back of sterling, recording gains of up to 2½. But the £800

The bitter battle over Arthur Bell & Sons continued to dominate the drink pitch. Guinness, on growing expectations of victory, gained 7p to 265p and Bell, as it searched for a white knight, rose 4p to 252p in sympathy.

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries topped the 150p mark for the first time since a flurry of takeover rumours sent the price soaring in the early 1970s.

DRG again returned to the takeover limelight. The packaging and stationery group jumped 6p to 197p on speculation that Bunzl's long suspected bid soon materialize.

Reed International gained 7p to 691p. Christian Salvesen, the food distribution group, which joined the stock market last month at an offer for sale price of 115p, rose another 5p to 130p alongside confirmation of further expansion. Salvesen revealed its plans in the sale prospectus, and the market appears particularly cheered by the company's expansion in America. Jobbers remain short of Salvesen stock, since investors seem to be taking a long-term "hold" view.

Among builders Barratt Developments rose 4p to 182p, still cheered apparently, by last week's news of a sale to the prime Minister, Mrs Thatcher is buying one of Barratt's most expensive homes.

Clothing retailer J. Hephworth continued its rise with a 6p gain to 238p. City men are showing enthusiasm for the group's imminent expansion into soft furnishings and homecare selling.

Benliff, the department stores chain, rose 5p to 111p, sharing in the sector's takeover excitement. Liberty rose another 10p to 785p for the same reason.

Among clothing makers, S.R. Gent, suppliers to Marks and Spencer, rose 8p to 88p. Analysts are beginning to think the shares are a good buy for recovery, having been hurt earlier in the year by poor clothing sales in certain areas of M & S business.

Stone International, the systems engineer which was bought out by its management from the receivers of Stone-Plant Industries, got an 8p boost to 162p yesterday after news of orders from British Gas Corporation and the Canadian Navy.

Davy Corporation found buying support yesterday morning, rising 4p to 110p despite going ex-dividend. The price stayed there throughout the day, even though market men reported a seller of 250,000 shares in the afternoon.

Clayton Son & Co, the Leeds-based engineer, pleased market speculators with a 19p jump to 139p, a new 1985 high for the shares. Talk of a stake in Clayton changing hands continues.

On the electricals pitches, leading shares were generally a

few pence higher, with Ferrand up 4p at 124p; General Electric Company up 4p at 192p; Racal Electronics up 6p at 162p and Thorn EMI, ex-dividend from yesterday, a penny better at 357p.

Second-line electricals, however, lacked sparkle, and Crystalite Holdings was hit again, losing 7p to 118p. STC fell 4p to 88p.

Ericsson, the Swedish electronics group, looked in bad shape. The local economy is weakening and the Swedish currency was losing ground

against the dollar and against sterling yesterday. Ericsson "B" shares, traded in London, slumped £1 7/8 to £19 7/8.

The 22 per cent profit advance and two for one share bonus pushed jewellers Asprey 100 higher at 1,125p. Tesco, where director Sir Leslie Porter has sold 600,000 shares and £305,000 of loan stock, rose 5p to 263p. J. Rothschild Holdings was unchanged at 100p as it purchased 500,000 shares for cancellation.

Shares in the property sector were back in favour, with MEPC leading the gains. The price of MEPC rose 10p to 292p as market men decided it was one of the cheapest around.

There was also technical reasons for buying MEPC. Currently there are two classes of shares around, including new ones which were issued towards the purchase of English Property Company. Such new shares do not incur stamp duty, and so are 1 per cent cheaper to buy.

British Land shares rose 7p to 158p. Land Securities gained 5p to 298p and Slough Estates was 4p better at 147p.

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Clayform poised for role in Owen Owen

There are cheaper ways of gaining an introduction to a company than announcing the purchase of 11.6 per cent of its shares, but few which are more persuasive. Owen Owen, the department store group, will therefore be more inclined to offer an audience to its youthful caller, Clayform Properties, than it might have been before the stake was disclosed.

Clayform remains coy about what is to be discussed when the meeting eventually takes place, other than to say it believes that there are several areas in which cooperation would be of mutual benefit. At this stage there is no apparent intention to use the 11.6 per cent stake as a platform from which to launch a full-scale takeover bid but that option lurks intimidatingly in the background.

The obvious area of cooperation is on Owen Owen's 21 department stores. Clayform has carved a rather lucrative niche for itself in the property market by developing run-down or unwanted large stores and turning them into more desirable smaller retail units.

There is no doubt, however, that Owen Owen's stores are in need of urgent attention. The last annual report from the

company spells out quite clearly that the way in which the group operates has to change, with much more emphasis being put on the performance of individual stores.

Owen Owen might have taken too long to recognize that it needed to change its *modus operandi*. The latest realization came earlier but still too late to save Debenhams. Although Owen Owen directors, family and friends account for over 40 per cent of the company's shares it might not be enough to counter a determined bidder who could point to the group's fairly dismal trading record of late.

It is a shrewd move by Clayform. Its Owen Owen shares, up 10p at 355p, are already showing a 55p profit on the average £3 purchase price. There may still be more to come.

The second half loss should be smaller thanks to profits on property sales. The share price of 315p, at a 60 per cent discount to net assets, nevertheless assumes further bottom line losses and a consequent erosion of the capital base.

Transport Development Group seems to be better at growing its own business than acquiring new ones. Whereas recent capital spending on the British storage business is clearly paying off, last year's \$9 million (£6.5 million) acquisition of Market Industries of Oregon has proved disappointing, so far.

Like the existing west coast United States transport operation, it has been hit by tough competition. As a result it contributed only \$350,000 in the latest six months, half of which was expected. On that basis TDG paid an over-generous 19 times annual earnings. The chairman, Sir James Duncan, claims to have no regrets and says the long-term potential is still good.

That confidence apparently also applies to Willing, the existing west coast freight company which also suffered from price discounting. A downturn there was more than made up for by a £1.9 million turnaround in the North American steel business and an extra £1 million profit in Britain, taking the pretax total to £11.2 million in the latest six months.

The total for the year may run out at £30 million before tax suggesting a p/e ratio of 10 with the shares at 128p. They yield 6.4 per cent.

For further growth TDG does not have to make risky investments. It could simply buy out the 30 per cent minority in its Australian quoted subsidiary. This would probably cost less than £3 million.

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A MESSAGE FOR BELL'S SHAREHOLDERS.

GUINNESS IS GOOD FOR YOU.

Bell's has lost its way. Accept Guinness' offer now.



GUINNESS PLC

DRAGHT AND BOTTLED GUINNESS. HARKALIBER. DRUMMONDS. MARTIN. THE NEWSAGENT. LAVELLS. 7-ELEVEN. CLARE'S. CHAMPNEYS AND STOBO CASTLE HEALTH RESORTS. NATURE'S BEST VITAMINS. GUINNESS PUBLISHING.

Traded option highlights

Traded options business remained dull, though there was some excitement for BT dealers as demand for November 180 put contracts was strong. Out of 817 total BT contracts traded, 403 of them were Nov 180 puts. Elsewhere, Grand Met op-

tions proved relatively popular, and 728 were traded. The dollar sterling option was the only other to see volume above 500 contracts. Prices showed no significant movement and volume for the days was 5,799 contracts.

COMPANY NEWS

● **ELSWICK-HOPPER:** Mr H. W. Cross, the chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that the recovery programme was making good headway. He was cautiously optimistic that the group would be at, or close to, breaking even for the year.

● **HMC AUSTRALASIA:** The company has negotiated an Aus\$2.6 million (£1.38 million) finance package for its 70 per cent owned Broad Arrow gold joint venture in Western Australia from National Westminster Finance Australia, an offshoot of National Westminster Bank.

● **NORWEST HOLST GROUP:** Year to March 31. Figures in £000. Turnover 221,842 (£26,001). Profit on ordinary activities, before tax, £114 (£2,301).

● **AYRSHIRE METAL:** Interim results for 24 weeks to June 14. Interim dividend 1p (nil). Figures in £000. Sales 9,013 (£9,988). Pretax profit 426 (£2).

● **HAMILTON OIL:** Half-year to June 30. Figures in £000. Revenue (103,977) (107,443). Pretax earnings, (9,697) (12,480). Latest pretax figures are equivalent to about £14.5 million.

● **GROSVENOR TECHNOLOGY FUND:** County Bank is acting as placement agent for the fund, a new British venture capital limited partnership, which will enable investors to participate in established unlisted companies principally in Britain.

● **OTL:** The shareholders have approved the change of name to Australian Merchant Holdings.

● **CAMBIVM VENTURE CAPITAL:** The company has bought Bestarch for 305,970 ordinary shares in Cambivm.

● **MID WYND INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT TRUST:** Year to June 30. Dividend 2.15p (2p). Net revenue before tax £194,268 (£158,738). Earnings per share 2.25p (2.01p).

● **NU-SWIFT INDUSTRIES:** European Fire Protection, a Dutch company, the sole shareholder of which is Mr J.G. Murray, chairman and majority shareholder in Nu-Swift, has purchased about 52.85 per cent of Compagnie Centrale Sica for 43.2 million francs (about £3.7 million). Sica makes and services fire extinguishers.

● **L C P HOLDINGS:** LCP's American offshoot Whitlock Corp. is to buy National Auto stores for about \$5.2 million (£3.9 million).

● **JAMES LATHAM:** In his annual statement, the chairman, Mr E. Michel Latham, says that difficult conditions have continued into the first quarter. Trading profits will probably suffer during the first half.

● **MAINMET HOLDINGS:** Year to May 31. Figures in £000. Turnover 1,681 (£1,191). Pretax profit 27 (loss 129).

RECENT ISSUES

Issue	Price
ATA Selection 5p Ord (59p)	62-1
Bradstock Group 5p Ord (170p)	180-1
British 10p Ord (185p) 1st	171
Causton Stores 10p 25p Ord (a)	38
C C A Galleries 10p Ord (180p)	124-1
Control Techniques 10p Ord (115p)	51
Deas Park Hills 25p Ord (51a)	156-1
F K B Group 5p Ord (140p)	107
First Security 10p Ord (160p)	81
Goodhead Print 25p Ord (88p)	88
Green Property 12.5p Ord (17a)	100
Lewin 25p Ord (110p)	70-1
Lynx Petroleum 5p Ord (65a)	51
Michael J. Design 2.5p Ord (144a)	102-1
Micro Scope 10p Ord (120p)	55-1
News Advertisers 5p Ord (105p)	55-1
Norfolk Toy Trust 10p Ord (50p)	111
Polypropylene 10p Ord (90p)	74-1
Procter & Gamble 5p Ord (100p)	85
Samuel Petroleum 50p Ord (150a)	106
Typical 10p Ord (110p)	
Right Issue	
Brown (John) 25p Nil Pd	3 7/8 pence
Pennine Tea 1185p Nil Pd	716
Shelton 25p Nil Pd	70p-3
Shelton 25p Nil Pd	60p-3
Tate 25p Nil Pd	60p-3

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	11 1/4%
Adam & Company	11 1/2%
Barclays	11 1/2%
BCCI	11 1/2%
Citibank Savings	11 1/2%
Consolidated Creds	11 1/2%
Continental Trust	11 1/2%
Co-operative Bank	11 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co	11 1/2%
Lloyds Bank	11 1/2%
Mitland Bank	11 1/2%
Nat Westminster	11 1/2%
TSB	11 1/2%
Williams & Glyn's	11 1/2%
Citibank NA	11 1/2%

1 Mortgage Base Rate.

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Firm start to account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Aug 12. Dealings End, Aug 30. Contango Day, Sept 2. Settlement Day, Sept 9.
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

THE TIMES

Portfolio

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DAILY DIVIDEND

£2,000

Claims required for
+37 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53372

THE TIMES
Portfolio

From your Portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright a share of the total daily prize money started. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.
 You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Year gain or loss
1	ELECTRICALS	
2	Crax Elect	
3	Arden Elect	
4	CASE	
5	Barrett	
6	BSR	
7	IBL	
8	GEK	
9	VC Instruments	
10	Scholar (GHI)	
11	AB Elect	
12	PROPERTY	
13	Lafing Prop	
14	Reaser (Ch)	
15	Urd Real	
16	Greycoat City	
17	Cardiff Prop	
18	Mounting	
19	Prop & Rev	
20	Slough Estates	
21	Gr Portland	
22	Hastings	
23	INDUSTRIALS A-D	
24	Reaser	
25	Charter Cars	
26	Doby Rumatic	
27	Beecham	
28	Diploma	
29	Bespak	
30	Davy	
31	Broken Hill	
32	Br Stern	
33	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
34	Hutchinson Wharfedale	
35	Scot	
36	Johnson Matthey	
37	Eico	
38	Gleaves	
39	Exel	
40	Hargreaves	
41	Holma	
42	Jardine Matheson	
43	French (Thomas)	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £40,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

1985 High Low Stock Price Chg % P/E

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

UNLISTED

INDEX-LINKED

Prospective real redemption yield on projected inflation rate (RPI) of 10% and 15%

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

BREWERIES

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

ELECTRICALS

BUILDING AND ROADS

FINANCE AND LAND

FOODS

HOTELS AND CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

INDUSTRIALS E-K

L-R

S-Z

1985 High Low Company Price Chg % P/E

ELECTRICALS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

BUILDING AND ROADS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

FINANCE AND LAND

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

FOODS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

HOTELS AND CATERERS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

INDUSTRIALS A-D

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

INDUSTRIALS E-K

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

L-R

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

S-Z

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

OIL

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

OVERSEAS TRADERS

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTISING

Company	Price	Chg %	P/E
...

PROPERTY

SHIPPING

SHOES AND LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCO

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

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COMPUTER HORIZONS/1

Councils
key in
private
help

By Jane Lawrence

Local authority computing departments are beginning to follow waste disposal and cleaning services into the hands of private contractors.

The Government has made it clear that it would like to see more services, including computing, go out to private firms. And now more and more councils are looking at the option, because of cost, a shortage of skilled employees, or both.

One of the first to make the jump is Three Rivers District Council, based at Rickmansworth, in Hertfordshire.

A Cambridge-based bureau, Perihex, has been brought in on a five-year contract worth £1.5 million and has taken charge of areas including internal payroll, housing benefits and rates.

The council found - as many other computer users are discovering - that trying to replace qualified computing staff has been a headache, especially as salaries in local government compared badly with the private sector.

The local authority management service and consultancy (LAMSAC) believes councils should consider all other options although it thinks outside contractors will not be able to quote a lower price if an in-house operation is run properly.

Lamsac warns that in other areas where services have been privatized not everyone has been satisfied. Nevertheless Lamsac itself acts as a bureau service on occasions. Among its products, it has a simulation system, which it sells as a software package or a service.

The one organization firmly behind privatization is the Computing Services Association.

Admittedly it is the CSA's members, for example computer bureaux, that stand to gain. Yet CSA's director general Doug Eyskens, maintains that the independents have much to offer. A private firm's size and specialization, he says, may often mean it can give a more efficient service.

Users should not worry that outside contractors make excessive profits. Mr Eyskens claims the average pre-tax profit figure for UK service companies is only 10%, although he accepts that is growing.

The move into the global village

The global village is on its way. Last week two media magnates from both sides of the Atlantic took one significant step towards that goal. Their ambition and those of others who will follow in their footsteps, has raised a whole series of questions about how information - computer data or television pictures - can be transferred across national boundaries.

The first move was made by Ted Turner, who five years ago launched the first 24-hour news television channel in the United States. The channel, Cable News Network (CNN), is beamed by satellite across the continent and distributed at local level by cable television network. Mr Turner announced a deal which would link the US, the Soviet Union and any other country which wanted to take part. The project is the staging of a live international sports event on an Olympic model.

These games - to be called the Goodwill Games - are the result of an agreement between Turner Broadcasting System (TBS), the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio

and Soyuzsport. It comes close on the heels of another signed by Turner and the Russians for the exchange of news, entertainment and sports programming.

The second significant move towards the global village was made by the British publisher, Robert Maxwell. He surprised most of his media rivals by announcing his purchase of a 20 per cent stake in the French direct

published its Green Paper *Television Across Frontiers*. That policy accorded with the Treaty of Rome, ensuring that all community members had access to the same media and information resources. The Turner and Maxwell deals have brought the issues to the fore.

At the time of publication the EEC said: "The commission believes that the cross-frontier broadcasting of radio and television programmes is of major importance in promoting integration. As one of the key media in the dissemination of information, television can play an important role in nurturing European awareness of their cultural and historical heritage."

Television pictures are but one element in the information equation. Any user's home will be able to transmit and receive data for business and private use once they are equipped with the electronic decoders, an

antenna and a home computer-television receiver.

But there are big political problems to be solved. The EEC has proposed that television programmes be available to all members at a statutory fee.

The EEC wants to adopt the same policy for computer data banks. Data stored in commercial data bases within the community, containing information other than personal details would be available to all members in the EEC for a statutory fee.

The British suppliers and operators have already rejected the proposal and have warned the EEC, which is drafting its Green Paper on copyright. The proposal is due to be published this autumn. It is being opposed through the newly formed Confederation of Information Communication Industries, which represents 28 major associations in the data-provision field. Its opposition to the EEC idea was disclosed last week - a timely reminder of the problems yet to be solved in transferring information live across national boundaries.

THE WEEK

By Bill Johnstone
Technology Correspondent

ideas and opinions, television can play an important role in nurturing European awareness of their cultural and historical heritage."

Television pictures are but one element in the information equation. Any user's home will be able to transmit and receive data for business and private use once they are equipped with the electronic decoders, an

Putting
disabled
people
in touch

By Frank Brown

As part of a programme to help disabled customers, British Telecom has published a guide to the services which enable handicapped people to use telecommunications and information-technology facilities.

Action for Disabled Customers details 70 aids, as well as devices that provide audible and visual signals, aid for people with impaired hearing including text-communication systems such as the Vistal deaf-communicating terminal and the RNIB Telephone Exchange for the Deaf.

Notes for hearing-aid users, and details of how to link the telephone to a personal computer and electronic-mail systems are also given, so that they can send messages and use home banking and shopping facilities as well as overseas information databases.

Products for the visually handicapped include a microchip-based telephone directory speech synthesizer unit for switchboard operators which can store up to 1,000 entries.

Aids for those with impaired speech include a portable speech synthesizer which connects directly to the phone and "speaks" any one of up to 64 phrases - Identification mes-



Janice Newman, who is blind, works in a London bank, and uses a modified Monarch phone system. A synthesized voice helps advise her on the system's use.

ages and requests for help - at the touch of a button.

Call makers, cordless and loudspeaking telephones and a variety of telephone holders and headsets are available for people with impaired mobility and dexterity and include devices to enable disabled people to control the environment in their home, ie, switch on lights, the radio or television or open doors, for example.

The book has been compiled by British Telecom's Action for

Hitachi under fire

The US Justice Department is investigating allegations that Hitachi engaged in predatory pricing in its attempts to outsize its American competitors in a depressed US semiconductor market.

The investigation was disclosed by Senator Pete Wilson, a California Republican, who released a letter from Charles Rule, acting assistant Attorney General for antitrust, saying that his division has "opened an investigation into possible predatory conduct by Hitachi and is pursuing it."

Hitachi along with six other Japanese microchip makers, faces separate charges of unfair pricing lodged with the US Commerce Department and the US International Trade Commission. Predatory conduct by any company is usually hard to prove that a Justice Department finding that Hitachi engaged in such behaviour could lead to civil suits from US competitors and claims for triple damages.

The Justice Department is

focusing on a memorandum Hitachi sent to its US salesmen telling them to consistently quote semiconductor prices 10 per cent below whatever US competitors offered, according to an aide to Senator Wilson.

The so-called 10 per cent memo was cited by the semiconductor industry association and microchip producer Micron Technology in separate petitions.

Hitachi said US sales total about \$2 billion (£1.40 billion) annually, including items produced by Hitachi in the US. Hitachi officials said the incident was the result of the "over-enthusiasm" of three US employees of Hitachi America.

Mr Rule's letter acknowledged that "predation is often quite difficult to establish". But he informed the California senator that the antitrust division "takes seriously any credible allegation of predatory behaviour in US markets and is fully prepared to proceed against such conduct when warranted by the facts".

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Germany on line for
telephone triumph

By Richard Sarson

West Germany has never done as well in computers as it has in other industries, although it buys more than any other European country. But they intend to jump ahead as computers converge with telecommunications.

The secret weapon is to get what they call their Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN) up and running before anyone else.

ISDN allows voice, data, teletext, Prestel, fax, and graphics to pass across the public telephone network. For this to be possible the network has to be converted to take digital rather than the current analogue signals.

Later there will be a further upheaval to convert to broadband - optical fibre network which will handle TV and teleconferencing. The Bundespost, the West German postal service, has laid down a three-stage master plan for the next seven years and beyond. It will digitalize the network by 1988, will then introduce the ISDN by 1990 and integrate this with broadband services by 1992.

There are also pilot schemes to see that it all works. These give West German manufacturers useful initial orders and pre-commercial experience. A pilot project starting in 1986 in Mannheim and Stuttgart for convergent technologies.

instance, will be equipped with Siemens and SEL digital exchanges and terminals.

Tests on the optical fibre broad band network started in 1983, with the Bundespost's Bigfun project. Nixdorf is heavily involved in this pilot.

West German industry is delighted. Bernd Stehle, managing director of Telenorma Datensysteme, another supplier of exchanges and ISDN terminals, said recently: "The planning horizon for ISDN stretches further into the future than any previous technological project."

"The Bundespost is offering security, which the telecommunications suppliers can use for innovation. With ISDN, Europe, particularly West Germany, has leaptfrogged the USA by about two years."

Nixdorf is the company which has banked its future on ISDN. It is consciously turning itself from a computer company into a communications company. By 1990 it plans to get half its turnover from communications. Unlike IBM, with its takeover of Rolm, or STC with its takeover of ICL, it is doing this on its own.

So, if the suppliers have their way, West Germany seems set to become the cockpit of Europe, in the war of the Mannheim and Stuttgart for convergent technologies.

Computer Horizons continues on Page 21

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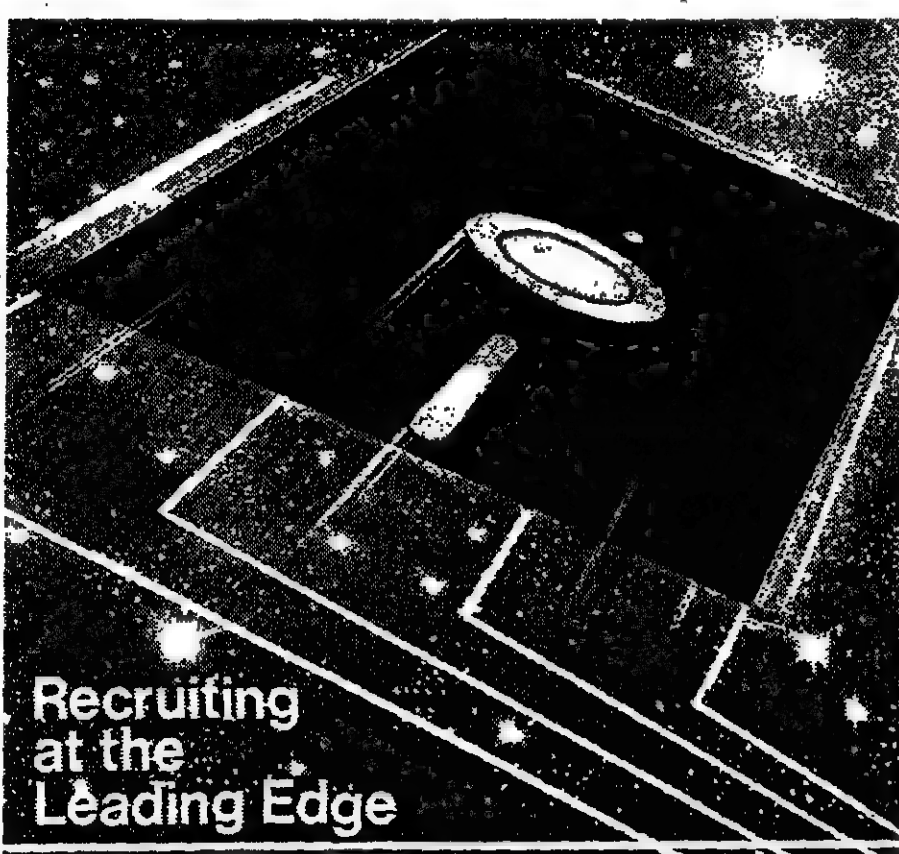
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Applications with full details of education, experience and current salary should be sent to: The Group Personnel Manager, Amalgamated Metal Corporation PLC, Adelaide House, London Bridge, London EC4R 9DT.

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The post is a new senior appointment with responsibility to the Board of Directors. The successful candidate will have a degree or equivalent qualification, and a record of relevant involvement and achievement in the electronics or computer industry.

The salary and benefits are enhanced by an annual performance related bonus and relocation assistance will be considered where appropriate. Please apply with full C.V. and names of two professional referees to:-

The Personnel Officer
Prosig Computer Consultants Limited
Link House, High Street,
Fareham, Hants, PO16 7BQ

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JOB TITLE	EXPERIENCE REQUIRED	SALARY RANGE
Programmer- Analyst	Languages: RPG II, RPG III, COBOL, FORTRAN, BASIC, ASSEMBLER, PL/I, PASCAL, C, MLL, CORAL, Hardware: IBM, DEC, ICL, HP, DATA GENERAL, SEASIDE, UNIVAC, PRIME, VAX.	\$8,000 to \$13,000
Software Engineers	Microprocessors, Data Communications, Networking, Telecommunications, A.T.E., Realtime, Robotics, Process Control, Simulation, Telemetry, Defence.	\$9,000 to \$18,000
Systems Programmers	Systems Programming on IBM/360/370/380, DEC Hardware	\$10,000 to \$17,000
Analyst Programmers, Systems Analysts, Support Consultants, Project Managers	CICS, Commercial, Financial, Soc. Control, Production Control, Business, Insurance, Communications, Networking.	\$10,000 to \$20,000
UX Professionals	From 12 months' experience on any hardware	\$9,000 to \$18,000

To Stuart Tall, Lansdowne Appointments Register, Park House, 207-211 The Vale, LONDON W3 7QH. Please send me a Lansdowne Appointments Register Job Finding Pack. Employers requiring further information about Lansdowne please also complete Section 2.

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Talk to us. With a specific client base of Banks, Stockbrokers, Dealers and Insurance Companies, we can advise you on the best move into Financial D.P., where salaries and benefits are amongst the best available to computer personnel.

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Expand your career in our developing computer environment

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Our Systems and Computer Applications Department at Reading now provides computer services to Foster Wheeler group companies and offices throughout the UK and consequently needs to expand.

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Our Applications service all aspects of the business including Payroll, Financial Accounting, Technical Design, Materials Management, Project Control and Technical Information Handling.

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The former will have numerate degrees and experience of IBM mainframe operating under MVS, while the Applications Analyst will have a sound working knowledge of ARTEMIS or an alternative Project-Planning System.

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For further information about these exciting opportunities in our expanding computer environment telephone Rosemary Manning on Reading (0734) 585211, or write to her at Foster Wheeler Energy Limited, Foster Wheeler House, Station Road, Reading RG1 1LX.

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Relevant degree with 2-5 years experience of designing and implementing software for communications and information systems. Ideally experienced in computer communications and networking, X25, SNA, OSI.

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For an application form and further details, ring FREEPHONE 2998 or 01-358 7287. Alternatively, write to Chris White quoting ref. 7113/8 at British Telecom, National Networks Recruitment Centre, 2-12 Gresham Street, London EC2V 2AG.

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(and Secretary of a UK subsidiary)
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£30,000 and substantial company benefits

The appointment of the current incumbent to a position in the U.S. operation has created the above vacancy. It presents an extremely attractive opportunity for a young, dynamic and ambitious person to join a fast-moving group as part of the Corporate team.

We are seeking candidates who are currently Assistant Deputy Company Secretary or an international group, or Company Secretary of a smaller public company. The required qualifications are:

- Qualification as a lawyer in the U.K.
- Ten years commercial law experience, including some years in the Secretariat department of a public company.
- Strong communication skills.
- High numeracy.

Additional preferences are for a degree (not necessarily in law) and an age between 32 and 40. An attractive remuneration package, commensurate with the position, will be available to the successful candidate.

Applicants should write, in confidence, enclosing a c.v. to Michael Craig, Employer at the address below.

PAUL R. RAY INTERNATIONAL,
Executive Selection,
58 St. James's Street,
London SW1A 1LL

LEGAL
ASSISTANT

Applications are invited for this London-based post within the legal department.

The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants is a professional accountancy body which has enjoyed statutory recognition for more than 50 years. The Association has the largest number of students - some 35,000 - of all the UK accountancy bodies and is probably the largest international examining body in the world.

The person appointed will assist with disciplinary and ethical matters, and the provision of legal services and advice for the Association's membership and secretariat. Applicants should be either solicitors, barristers or law graduates or have successfully completed a degree course which required some study or knowledge of law (e.g. business administration). They will have to be competent administrators and be capable of handling effectively a substantial and varied workload. They should be fluent and competent communicators, both orally and in writing and be prepared to work within the constraints of a professional institution. Whilst some experience in the legal profession or in commerce is desirable, the post could be attractive to the newly qualified lawyer or someone who has graduated recently.

The salary will be according to age and experience at an appropriate point within the range £8,500 to £12,500 a year in grade IV or V of the Association's salary scheme.

For an application form and further details please contact Miss Mary Foster, Administrative Assistant, The Chartered Association of Certified Accountants, 28 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3EE. Tel No. 01-242 6865. The last date for receipt of completed applications is 6th September, 1985.

LEGAL ADVISER
Central London

This is an opportunity for a Solicitor in late 20's to early 30's to join the Company's Legal Division at its Head Office in London.

The Division is concerned with advising the Company and its international subsidiary and associated companies on a wide range of legal aspects of their operations both within the UK and elsewhere. These include drafting and negotiating contracts relating to the sale of goods, distribution, joint ventures, purchasing of materials, and the licensing of industrial property. Previous experience of similar work would be an advantage.

Salaries are competitive and we offer excellent conditions of employment, including a non-contributory pension scheme.

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DARTFORD PETTY SESSIONAL DIVISION

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Candidates should be fully conversant with the work of a Justices Clerks office and have the ability and experience to take all courts without supervision in addition to some administrative duties.

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Progressive career salary scheme with starting point depending upon qualifications and experience. Conditions of service for Magistrates' Courts Staff apply.

Disturbance allowance payable in approved cases. Further details and application form, returnable by 27 August, from the Clerk of the Kent Magistrates' Courts Committee, County Hall, Maidstone Kent ME14 1XQ, phone Maidstone (0622) 67411 ext 3344.

Additional information may be obtained from Mr G.M.C. Dack, Clerk to the Justices, Sessions House, Highfield Road, Dartford, Kent DA1 2JW, phone Dartford (0372) 27646.

Principal Solicitor
(Contracts)

Salary £15,699-£16,722 p.a.

(pay award pending)

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You will have responsibility for managing a small Contracts Section of the Department and will also be required to attend member meetings from time to time.

Applications are particularly invited from suitably qualified women and from members of ethnic minority communities, who are currently under-represented in the workforce at this level.

Further particulars and an application form, please telephone 01-881 8065 (24-hour answering machine) quoting ref M5420.

Closing date 30 August 1985.

Haringey

Haringey is an equal opportunity employer. We welcome your application which will be considered on merit, irrespective of race, marital status, sex or any disability you may have.

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Butterworths, the leading law book publishers who operate the Lexis on-line legal information retrieval service have a vacancy in the department researching and developing electronic publishing products.

The job will involve preparing and conducting market research to identify opportunities capable of practical exploitation, developing product and technical specifications and carrying out feasibility studies. Keeping abreast of developments in legal practice and electronic publishing technology will be an important part of the work.

Candidates should be familiar with the existing applications of computer and information technology to legal practice and should be able to demonstrate an awareness of the benefits the legal profession seeks to derive from it. Candidates with a Solicitor's qualifications will have an advantage but the most important qualities are an innovative mind, an interest in the practical application of computer technology together with the ability to communicate that interest to others and a flexible approach to the problems posed by this new medium.

Salary and conditions in accordance with NUJ agreement.

Please reply with full c.v. to:

Mrs Dawn Gale, Personnel Department,
Butterworth & Co. (Publishers) Ltd.,
83 Kingsway, London WC2B 6AL.

Butterworths

THE LAW SOCIETY
LAW GRADUATE

The Law Society, the professional association of solicitors in England and Wales is seeking a law graduate, who will ideally have studied for the Law Society's Final Examination, to work in the Professional Purposes Department.

Duties will include the handling of enquiries from the public, advising the profession on professional conduct and ethics, and in due course responsibility for the interpretation and enforcement of the Practice Rules, preparation of committee agenda notes, and servicing the Sub Committees.

Applicants will preferably have a knowledge of the practice of the profession obtained through employment in a solicitors office. Full training will be given to the successful applicant who must have the ability to produce concise reports, communicate effectively at all levels and efficiently handle a large volume of administrative work.

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Interested applicants should send CV's to the Personnel Officer, The Law Society, The Law Society's Hall, 113 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1PL.

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COMPANY COMMERCIAL SOLICITOR, 10 to 12 years p.a., required for highly regarded City practice. Excellent salary and benefits. Please send CV to: Legal Careers, 100, The Quadrant, London W1 1AA. Tel: 01-493 1262/3.

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LEGAL EXECUTIVE, 10 to 12 years p.a., required for highly regarded City practice. Excellent salary and benefits. Please send CV to: Legal Careers, 100, The Quadrant, London W1 1AA. Tel: 01-493 1262/3.

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Primary duties are concerned with conveyancing and the successful applicant will deal with a range of registered and unregistered conveyancing, both freehold and leasehold and a variety of contractual agreements relating to local authority functions. Experience of conveyancing is essential. Experience of minor litigation work (e.g. sundry debts) would be advantageous.

Further details and an application form can be obtained from the District Personnel Officer, 323 High Street, Epping, Essex, CM16 4BZ (Telephone Epping 77344, Extension 2101).

Please quote reference S/6

Closing date: 26th August 1985.

ASSISTANT
SECRETARIES

APPLICATIONS are invited for two Assistant Secretary vacancies which have arisen in the National Communications Union.

One of the above vacancies will be in the Union's Legal Aid Department, therefore legal qualifications will be an added advantage for this post. The other vacancy is on general organisation and regulating work.

The salary scale is £15,102 (plus Outer London Weightings of £585) rising by two increments to £17,073 (plus Outer London Weightings). There is a contributory superannuation scheme in operation with a normal retirement age of 60 years.

Application forms and further particulars may be obtained by written request from the General Secretary, National Communications Union, Grayskote House, 150 Brunswick Road, Ealing, London W5 1AW.

The closing date for receipt of completed application forms is by first post on Friday, 6th September, 1985.

NCU

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